

FBIS

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MOSCOW CALLS U.S. POLITICIANS OPPOSING SALT-II 'IRRESPONSIBLE'

LD131718 Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] Judging by official reports, the Soviet-American SALT-II talks are approaching their successful completion. Though there are still some issues which remain to be solved, both sides expressed hope on achieving a final agreement. The text of the expected treaty has not been published yet. Despite this it has been widely discussed and welcomed by the public. This means that the very fact that our two countries are coming to terms on limiting strategic arms is of great significance for both Soviet-American relations and the situation in the world as a whole. As is known, the Soviet Union and the United States have tremendous amounts of sophisticated nuclear weapons. According to estimates made by the United Nations, these great powers' nuclear supplies are now several million times more in destructive power than the atom bombs dropped on Hiroshima. And the world-known Stockholm International Institute on Peace Problems Research has come to the conclusion that a nuclear war between the Soviet Union and the United States would be the greatest threat to man and nature.

The question arises therefore: What should be a reasonable and realistic approach to the problems our two countries are facing now? To let a further development of mass destruction weapons without any restrictions, or to try to restore mutually acceptable limitations on strategic nuclear armaments? One should not be a military expert to realize the obvious truth that the more missiles, arms and submarines are produced in the United States, the more dangerous the world arms race becomes; threatening the general peace. This prospect would hardly serve the national interest of the American people or of any other nation. On the other hand the worth of any agreement based on equality and equal security cannot be underestimated. The time has come to create barriers on the way of the continuing arms race.

Of course, the expected Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty will not solve all the problems involved but it will be an extremely important contribution to the process of bringing about disarmament. The treaty will create ceilings or limitations for practically all types of nuclear strategic weapons. This will open the way to future mutually acceptable reductions of nuclear armaments and to other agreements on stopping the arms race. In other words, SALT-II and subsequent understandings on disarmament will lessen the level of Soviet-American military confrontation. This will serve the purpose of reducing the danger of nuclear war and strengthening general peace.

I wonder, what can the critics of the SALT-II in the United States suggest instead of the conclusion of the coming agreement? They don't have any reasonable alternative to it. Some of the critics say that they would prefer a better treaty; but such assertions (?hide the truth) aimed at misleading the public. The expected Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty is the result of talks lasting 6 years, which were conducted on the American side first by leaders of the Republican Party and then by leaders of the Democratic Party. The treaty represents a realistic compromise which takes into account the interest of both the Soviet Union and the United States and the interest of strengthening international security as well. The American politicians complaining against SALT-II (?show their) irresponsible attitude to problems of preventing nuclear war and of consolidating general peace.

Importance of Signing SALT-II

LD140128 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] An end to the arms race and real disarmament is a vital task today. It is in the political and economic interests of all nations and in the interests of real security and a stable peace throughout the world.

Therefore it is especially important to conclude the SALT-II agreement. Here is comment on disarmament and SALT-II by Oleg Anichkin:

If the arms race continues it will be a growing menace to world peace and security. The buildup of nuclear and conventional weapons threatens to obstruct efforts to solve the vital problems facing humanity. The arms race is not only continuing but is moving much faster than the talks on limiting arms.

Scientists are developing new weapons systems whose quantity and quality cannot be mutually controlled. This might interfere with the possibility of concluding agreements that can be supervised. Now more than ever it is necessary to agree on limiting the arms race and, primarily, limiting the development of nuclear missiles. A central issue in curbing the arms race is the limitation of strategic weapons. The talks on SALT-II are important not only for the future development of relations between our two countries but also for the solution of other big international problems. These talks have a long and complicated history. Special agreements signed in 1973 gave the guidelines for the talks. They stipulated that new SALT agreements should be based on principles of equality and like security and that attempts to gain unilateral advantages directly or indirectly would be incompatible with peaceful relations between the Soviet Union and the United States.

The unjustified delay in concluding the SALT-II agreement has not only been due to the complicated nature of the talks. In the history of Soviet-American talks there have been cases when the Americans backed off from the agreed guidelines for conducting the talks and it took time and constant effort to set them on the right track again. The new Soviet-American agreement to limit strategic offensive weapons would be an important practical step toward ending the arms race. It is intended to limit strategic offensive weapons quantitatively and qualitatively and to make way for new talks to stop the creation of new weapons systems of this kind.

The SALT-II agreement will prevent for many years to come the accumulation of the most destructive and expensive weapons. It won't harm the security of the Soviet Union or the United States: On the contrary, it will promote these aims. According to public opinion polls in the United States, the people are for an early signing of the agreement and believe this measure would not only insure security for the American people but would have other practical benefits. And recently top-ranking officials in the administration have been giving more thought to the prospects of signing the SALT-II agreement.

In the United States, however, there are forces that are doing everything they can to keep SALT-II from being signed. They are especially active now that there are greater possibilities that the treaty will be signed. As a rule they claim they are protecting national interests, but in fact they are against the relaxation of international tension and are working against the interests of their own country. The opponents in the United States of SALT-II are using every false accusation against the Soviet Union and its policies in an attempt to keep the treaty from being signed. One example is the recent report in some American newspapers about a secret Pentagon paper about Soviet missiles that are supposedly not included in SALT-II. The treaty's opponents believe that the end justifies the means when it comes to confusing the American public. The arguments the treaty opponents use are always one and the same. That the Soviet Union is supposedly trying to achieve strategic superiority through the treaty.

These groups apparently want to ignore the objective factors of our time and the Soviet Union's principled position. They should know that the Soviet Union is not seeking military superiority. The SALT-II opponents would like to make the new agreement hinge on issues that have no connection with the treaty.

They are hoping that by obstructing an agreement they can force political concessions from the Soviet Union. But such hopes are futile. Those who think in cold war terms are storming the Capitol. They want to keep the treaty from being signed and, if possible, to stir up sentiments in the country and mainly in Congress to make ratification quite difficult.

The new SALT agreement would not only be an important disarmament measure in itself but would also be a good example for talks underway on various aspects of disarmament. Leonid Brezhnev has also pointed out that the SALT-II treaty would have a favorable effect on the international climate in general. Leading American politicians have also expressed this opinion and former Chairman of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee William Fulbright has said the treaty will help ease international tension and would serve the interests of peace and the relaxation of tension. He is convinced that there is no other way to eliminate the nuclear menace except by normalizing relations between the Soviet Union and the United States and by furthering cooperation.

Connally Statements on SALT

LD150604 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] We now present another program in our series "Moscow Viewpoint." Programs in this series are prepared by Valentin Zorin, political observer for Soviet television and radio:

I want to start out today, he writes, by mentioning a recent statement by a prominent American political figure. He says he feels that terminating the SALT talks with the Soviet Union would do more good for universal peace than any such treaty signed with the Soviets. One could, of course, simply ignore this statement had it come from a less prominent person. But coming as it did from a man who will become a candidate in next year's presidential election, it should, I think, be taken into account.

The man who said it is John Connally, and anyone trying to describe his official position will have to use the adjective "former": He is a former governor of Texas, former treasury secretary, former member of the Democratic Party elite and so on and so forth. So he must have decided it is time that something be done about it, that he may take care of his future. So let's imagine that John Connally wins the nomination at the Republican Party convention in the summer of next year and that he really moves to the White House in the fall of that year. Not that I personally think it's a clinch, but one can never really be sure in things of this kind, you will agree.

So if this really happens the United States will have a President who feels that there should not be any talks on limiting strategic arms with the Soviet Union and there should be no SALT-II. It is not for me to decide how attractive this prospect may be for the most people in the United States. But had these views become official U.S. policy, the world would be heading towards a danger, the full extent of which is really difficult to anticipate. Washington officials like to stress on every occasion the importance of mutual trust for Soviet-American relations. And there is no denying the fact that it is important. But how should we in the Soviet Union take statements like this one, made by John Connally, especially since he says he wants to be the next American president? Can such statements increase our confidence in the United States and its intentions? That statement, I'll repeat, has come from a person who actually may become President of the United States.

American politicians and sections of the media which are trying to arouse mistrust about Soviet political aims and motivations can mention no such or similar statements by top-ranking Soviet officials or by the Soviet media.

So it should not be too difficult for one to decide which side undermines mutual trust, which is really so important for our relations. One could say, of course, that people in the United States are free to say what they want on any subject but there is a difference in this particular case. This statement has been made not just by a private individual but by a leading political figure who will contest the next presidential election.

What is more, John Connally is not alone in expressing such views. In recent times a number of Washington officials have joined the campaign against SALT-II. One could mention, for example, a statement by 12 Republican senators issued this week. So the closer we all get to having SALT-II, the more violent the antitreaty campaign in the United States becomes. The American public is exposed to a barrage of statistics and arguments which are meant to convince people that SALT-II will endanger American national security.

A few days ago, U.S. Defense Secretary Brown went on record as saying that a new strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union will not jeopardize U.S. national security in any way. I think he is a person who should know what he is talking about. So we can assume that some of the senators who try to frighten the public by a Soviet military threat are really better informed than the secretary of defense? Or shall we assume that these senators have reasons to question the loyalty of the present administration, including the President himself and the country's military leaders and that they are honestly trying to protect the nation from a threat to its security? I think this is a really going too far.

I think the root of the matter is different. In his speech in New York the other day the secretary of defense mentioned the fact that SALT-II would save the United States some \$30 billion over the next decade without endangering the national security. So the real question is: Who is going to save this money? It is easy to see that this saving will benefit the U.S. taxpayer because it is he who has to pay for all the military programs. But saving money for the taxpayer means losing money for those who live off juicy orders for arms and military hardware. This explains the divided opinion on this matter in Washington, a division which has been noted by all analysts watching the progress of debates on the signing and ratification of SALT-II.

On one hand, all recent opinion polls prove that 70 to 75 percent of the people in the United States want to see this treaty signed without delay. And on the other hand, some senators are campaigning against this treaty, contrary to their voters' wishes. So the answer to this riddle is really simple: Some people on Capitol Hill are much more concerned about the interests of the military and industrial complex than about their country's national security and about views of the majority of the public.

And there is also another aspect to this matter which I would like to mention now. One gets the impression that some people would very much like to turn the problem of ending the arms race into a kind of political sport to promote their own political career. I think in general the working up of hysteria on the problem of Soviet-American relations and on the problem of limiting strategic arms is a dangerous game. There is really nothing wrong about politicians waging their election battles on problems such as a balanced national budget, fighting corruption in high places and similar policy issues. But it is both dangerous and irresponsible to play on issues which are vitally important for the destinies of the world, including the future of the American nation.

There can be no alternative to peace and international security and there can be no choice for a soberminded person between trying to produce mutually acceptable solutions that would terminate the dangerous and wasteful arms race and the policy of stepping up this race at a mounting cost and a mounting threat of a nuclear disaster.

John Connally, who has jumped so easily from the donkey to the elephant, is not a politician who measures his practical steps against his principles. But certain methods of making a successful personal career cannot and should not be practiced in international politics. So I think the American voters will be able to make the right choice between individuals who stop at nothing to achieve personal success and those who have genuine concern for national security.

People Support Agreement

LD142005 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Our Washington correspondent, Yuriy Soltan, has prepared a report on how the prospects for signing the Soviet-American SALT agreement are being assessed in the United States. Though restrained, Washington's appraisals that appear in the foreign press are, nevertheless, optimistic. Here is Yuriy Soltan:

The conviction that the agreement will be ready for signing in the near future is growing stronger within the political circles of the American capital. In particular, this conviction is reinforced by the campaign in support of the treaty, which the Washington administration has begun to pursue more actively. The press says that preparations for major debates in the American Senate, where the document is to be ratified by two-thirds of the votes, are already under way. Administration spokesmen explain that the treaty, without harming the security of both countries, will create a definite barrier to the stockpiling of the most destructive types of arms and will serve as a basis for further work aimed at curbing the nuclear missiles arms race.

At the same time, local observers draw attention to the discrepancy between the administrations's words and deeds. At one time, its leaders used to say that United States' policy regarding the Soviet Union would be based on principles of cooperation and competition. However, some people clearly desire to lay emphasis not on cooperation but on competition first and foremost.

The strange reasoning that hopes for a general improvement of Soviet-American relations allegedly ought not to be linked to the conclusion of the treaty, as well as the propaganda concerning plans for development of new systems of nuclear missile arms--for which purpose a sharp increase of the U.S. military budget in the coming financial year is being envisaged--can only be regarded in this light.

Such tactics of appeasement of rightwing forces serves only to encourage the treaty's opponents who are engaged in an intensive lobbying of senators, particularly those who intend to offer themselves as candidates in the 1980 presidential election and those who are up for re-election this year.

The configuration of forces in the Senate itself, where it is necessary to have 67 votes out of 100 to ratify the treaty, so far remains unclear. However, it is symptomatic that only a very few people dare to directly oppose the treaty at present.

No matter what efforts are being made to frighten Americans with a growing Soviet military threat, no matter what proofs are adducted to show that the treaty will place the United States second, after the USSR, in the military respect, the people's general mood remains unchanged--a majority, a significant one at that, supports the treaty, linking with it hopes for detente and the lessening of the burden of military spending.

The politician who fails to take this mood into account may find he has got to pay a steep price for this error.

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U.S.-USSR TALKS ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS USEFUL

LD161024 Moscow TASS in English 0959 GMT 16 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, April 16, TASS--Delegations of the USSR and the United States met here from February 21 to April 11, 1979 to continue negotiations on prohibition of chemical weapons.

These bilateral negotiations are held to achieve the earliest accord on a joint initiative in order to submit it to the Disarmament Committee, implying the objective of elaborating an agreement that would envisage full, effective and controlled prohibition of the development, production and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and also elimination of stockpiles of such weapons.

The meetings were useful. The delegations continued work in explaining and bringing closer their positions on many matters relating to the joint initiative. The negotiations will be continued at a time to be agreed upon later.

USSR, U.S. TO RESUME TALKS ON ANTI-SATELLITE SYSTEMS

LD141454 Moscow TASS in English 1444 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["Resumption of Talks"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--Talks between delegations of the USSR and the USA on the question of anti-satellite systems are to be resumed in Vienna on April 23, it is officially announced here.

Previous consultations on the matter were held in June last year and in January-February this year.

SOVIET SECURITY COMMITTEE ASSESSES PROSPECTS FOR DETENTE

LD132332 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

["Struggle for International Security and Cooperation"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--Prospects for developing the struggle for peace and disarmament were examined today at a meeting of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation.

The committee's chairman, Aleksey Shitikov, noted that in 1978 and during the first months of this year the Soviet public intensified efforts at deepening and expanding detente on the European Continent, at ending the arms race. At the same time it is necessary to facilitate still more actively the implementation of all the Helsinki accords, as laid down in the Final Act. It is necessary to tirelessly expose subversive actions by NATO and the Beijing leadership, who have set the task of obstructing the development of detente. We must struggle more actively against the neutron and other kinds of mass-annihilation weapons, for disarmament, for augmenting political detente with military relaxation.

Assuming special importance, Shitikov noted, is the holding of an international forum next October in Brussels, at the initiative of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation. It will be held in the framework of the U.N. disarmament week.

It is necessary to render practical assistance to the international committee and its Secretariat, Shitikov stated, for expanding the base of the movement for European security and cooperation, for establishing a dialogue with the social-democrats, democratic-Christians and other social forces on the vital issues of our time.

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All our work, Shitikov said, must take into account the preparations and the future holding of the 1980 Madrid meeting of representatives of the states participants in the all-European conference. This is a goal both of our committee, and of the movement as a whole, since the opponents of detente intend to prepare a whole arsenal of "arguments" aimed at undermining the Helsinki spirit and the development of relations between the West and the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

'Fervent' Support for Disarmament Forum

LD132244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A session of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation was held on 13 April. Under discussion were the tasks of the struggle for peace, disarmament and cooperation at the present stage. The representatives of the Soviet public gave fervent support to the Soviet Union's new foreign policy initiatives set out in Comrade Brezhnev's speech at the pre-election meeting in Moscow. Information was given concerning the initiatives of the International Committee for European Security and Cooperation concerning the holding of a forum of European public for disarmament and security and also on other matters in Brussels this October within the framework of the UN disarmament week.

AUSTRIA'S KREISKY CITED ON IMPORTANCE OF SALT, MBFR PROGRESS

LD100857 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 79 p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Melnikov report: "For Deepening Detente"]

[Text] Vienna, 6 April--A meeting took place in Vienna's Concordia press club today between Austrian Federal Chancellor B. Kreisky and foreign journalists. The theme was international problems, as well as questions of the internal political life of the country, which is preparing for parliamentary elections 6 May.

Answering a question from PRAVDA's correspondent, Kreisky placed a positive assessment on the prospects of detente and noted the importance of its consistent implementation by state leaders. In this connection he stressed the significance of the new initiatives put forward in the speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the meeting with voters 2 March this year, in particular with respect to the speediest signing of a Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT-II). In parallel with this it is necessary to obtain successes at last at the Vienna talks on reducing armed forces and armaments in central Europe, the federal chancellor stated.

WEEKLY' INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD151530 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with all-union radio commentator Yevgeniy Viktorovich Kachanov, NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board member Dmitriy Antonovich Volkskiy, and Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev--not further identified]

Jamaica's Manley Official Visit

[Text] [Kachanov] Good day, comrades. The constructive, peace-loving foreign policy line of the Communist Party and Soviet state is winning even greater authority in the international sphere. Further confirmation of this was the official visit to the Soviet Union of Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, which took place this week. I remind you, comrades, that Jamaica is a small island state in the Caribbean which consistently implements the policy of nonalignment and which in recent years has enjoyed growing authority not only in the Western Hemisphere.

The joint Soviet-Jamaican communique published on the results of the visit indicates that in a review of the prevailing international situation both sides noted with satisfaction that they have common viewpoints on many questions. The Soviet Union and Jamaica agreed to step up their efforts to strengthen international peace and security on the basis of the principles of the sovereign equality of states and their inalienable right to exercise full control over their natural resources, noninterference of one state in the internal affairs of another, territorial integrity and inviolability of borders, and strict observance of the principles and aims of the UN Charter. They agreed that significant progress has been made in the acceptance of the policy of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems and shared the view that detente in Europe, based on the principles embodied in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, has a positive effect not only on relations between European states but also on relations between all other states.

UN, MBFR Disarmament Talks

The very important political initiatives by the Soviet Union are confidently forging ahead and gaining the endorsement of ever greater number of states. In New York this week the first session this year of the UN special committee for the world conference on disarmament concluded its work. Many of our listeners probably remember that at the beginning the idea for holding such a conference, which was put forward by the Soviet Union, was met literally with hostility in the West. Several NATO figures, without even bothering to find arguments, declared without equivocation that it would be useless and even harmful. And now all--I stress, all--speakers at the session of the special committee supported the proposal to recommend that the next session of the UN General Assembly decide on a date for convening the world conference on disarmament and create a working body to prepare it.

Naturally, not everything in the process of strengthening international detente is proceeding smoothly. Thus the 17th round of talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe, which ended this week in Vienna, turned out to be virtually a round of lost opportunities because of the stance of several Western countries. As early as last summer--or more exactly, on 8 June--the socialist countries submitted a wide set of compromise proposals, but the West never replied to them. NATO strategists as before are trying to gain unilateral advantages for themselves and do not want to heed the voice of reason. It only remains to express the hope that the next round, the 18th, which will begin in a month's time will turn out to be more productive.

Lately the attention of many news media has been concentrated on Western Europe, where complicated and contradictory processes are taking place in a number of countries. I have in mind primarily Britain and Italy, where early parliamentary elections have been announced. The situation in Italy is arousing great interest. I will call upon Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev, who is taking part in our program, to talk in detail about the situation in that country.

Political Situation in Italy

[Kovalev] It is noteworthy that in the last 10 years the Italian Parliament has been dissolved early three times. The fifth in line of the governments formed by the famous figure in the Christian Democratic Party, Andreotti, carried on last month for just a few days. Parliament rejected its composition and program, which provided no answer to the question of how to resolve the highly complicated socioeconomic and political problems now confronting Italy.

The Christian Democrats--and this is generally recognized in the country--bear the main responsibility for the latest political crisis. I will recall how it came about. During the elections in 1976 the Italian Communist Party [PCI] achieved great success. More than a third of the voters voted for it. Recognizing the need to create more solid, wide bases in order to bring Italy out of its economic and social stagnation, the Communist Party began to participate in the parliamentary majority last March, in the bloc of five parties which agreed on the general government program. It was a general program involving the Christian Democrats, the socialists and other antifascist and democratic parties. It seemed that the Andreotti government, in response to such a show of good will would finally have to undertake reforms which the people are demanding and which are included in the Constitution--first and foremost the solution of two basic problems: mass unemployment and the backwardness of the southern and island areas.

Nothing of this was done. The Christian Democrats were accustomed to a monopoly government of the country throughout the postwar years. They were unable and unwilling to busy themselves in working for the good of the whole nation. It became clear that, at the present stage, in order for there to be radical change it was necessary to form a government of democratic unity, a government which representatives of the Communist Party would join without any discrimination, taking into account their true importance in society. However, Christian Democrat figures refused to adopt such a solution. There followed a vote in Parliament in which the Christian Democratic Party did not receive support. This made it necessary to hold early parliamentary elections.

[Kachanov] But it seems to me that the main event which began April in Rome was the 15th PCI Congress.

[Kovalev] You are quite right, Yevgeniy Viktorovich. Just now I want to talk about the PCI congress. Its work was prominent in all persuasions of the Italian press. There was radio and television broadcast reportage from the congress many times a day. This is quite understandable since the PCI embraces almost 1.8 million members. It is the largest communist party in the capitalist world, which has gained a firm stronghold not only among the working people but also among the large middle class in the country. The communists' view on the most important domestic and foreign policy questions is shared by the widest strata of the population.

In the present situation it is impossible to govern Italy without the PCI or, furthermore, in opposition to the Communist Party. This truth was confirmed by the latest events, which proved the sterility of all maneuvers aimed at excluding the PCI from the sphere of settling questions of state.

[Kachanov] As reports from Italy say, the early parliamentary elections have been set for 3-4 June. Quite considerable significance is being attributed to them, isn't it?

[Kovalev] This is not surprising, since the new composition of deputies and senators will have to try once more to resolve problems, which while unresolved have brought Italy to the brink of a very grave crisis.

U.S. Interference

From all accounts the electoral campaign promises to be quite keen. This is all the more true now that certain foreign forces are becoming involved. These are, above all, and far from the first time, American diplomats.

It is well known that back at the beginning of 1978, when the question of the PCI's entry into the governmental majority was being decided, the U.S. State Department spoke out unambiguously against the participation by communists in the governments of West European countries and openly stated its aim of weakening their influence. Now, on the eve of elections, this aim seems to be assuming the nature of totally specific political and propagandist actions. A whole complex of political and economic measures, designed to secure for the United States the necessary election results in Italy, have already been worked out in Washington for a long time, since the 1976 elections. Their scope is quite broad, ranging from direct threats to regrets about the advantages which Italy might miss and which, it is understood depend on the formation of a parliamentary and later, governmental, composition acceptable to the West.

One of the inspirers and organizers of this campaign, which has been portentously styled in the West as the battle for Italy, is U.S. Ambassador to Rome Gardner, who has set off specially for Washington for consultations. As Italian newspapers write, Ambassador Gardner said after his meeting with the President that the American administration would on no account agree to communists entering the Italian Government.

In America, above all, fear is being expressed about a possible decision by Italian voters which would be unfavorable to NATO interests. On this subject, the U.S. press hints that with the creation of a front in the Near East, comprising Israel and Egypt, under the aegis of the United States, Italy would become an important link, binding it into a single chain with the countries of the Atlantic bloc.

Italian diplomat Gaja, who was in his time an ambassador for his country in Washington, also wrote about this recently. The theses propounded in America have also been picked up by certain Italian newspapers. CORRIERE DELLA SERA writes on this, for example, to the effect that the United States intends to woo Italian industry with military orders for NATO.

One can recall that in the fifties and sixties Washington made serious attempts to create governments agreeable to it in Italy. The Italian weekly PANORAMA wrote recently that around \$48 million found their way into the party funds of the then governmental coalition, headed by the Christian Democrats, as well as the pockets of individual Italian politicians, in the approximate 10-year period preceding 1973. Democratic forces in Italy assess the campaign being waged by Washington at the moment as inadmissible interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state, as an attempt to exert open pressure on the Italian electorate. Together with this, it is an obvious provocation against detente, for there is no doubt that the instigators of this struggle are the same U.S. and NATO forces which would like to turn Europe into a breeding ground for the cold war once again.

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PRC's Expansionist Aims

[Volskiy] Well, it is precisely the same forces, as a matter of fact, which are operating on another continent, which we have not yet discussed today--in Asia--the only difference being that it is in Asia, where the atmosphere is becoming exceptionally acute and tense now, since there, together with the imperialist circles described just now by Eduard Vasilyevich, the Maoists, the Beijing leadership, are also operating, cooperating and effecting rapprochements and contacts on wide-ranging issues with the imperialist circles.

[Kachanov] Excuse me, I must interrupt you. Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the editorial board of NOVOYE VREMYA, has joined our discussion. Please go on.

[Volskiy] And in speaking about the problems facing the Asian Continent today, one cannot fail to recall the facts connected with the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. This aggression showed that Beijing intends to pursue a policy of expansion on a wider scale--I think, with respect not only to Vietnam, or to Indochina alone, but throughout the whole region of South and Southeast Asia. This is the first point, and then if we recall that the Beijing leadership supported the Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea--a regime which carried out a policy of genocide against its own people--we will see the sociopolitical model, if one can call it that, which the Chinese want to impose on the other countries in Asia.

Here is an interesting detail, which the British weekly, THE NEW STATESMAN, recently recalled. This detail concerns the visit of Deng Xiaoping to the United States--the visit directly preceding, what's more, the Chinese aggression against Vietnam. You will remember that there Deng publicly threatened to teach Vietnam a lesson. But it turns out that he also told the U.S. Government, and I am quoting the British weekly, about his plans. And in Washington, THE NEW STATESMAN writes, they were delighted at the thought of a short-term punitive expedition.

But this delight could not fail to evaporate when the expedition received a decisive rebuff and the Chinese began to suffer defeat. But as some can see from THE NEW STATESMAN article, the fact remains that Washington encouraged Beijing's aggression in the hope--and I will take the liberty of quoting the magazine once more--that the new alliance would be sealed with blood.

It must be said that this alliance is already becoming sprinkled with blood in other parts of Asia. Above all we are already beginning to see this now in Laos, which neighbors Vietnam. So far Beijing is using a somewhat different tactic here from that which it used against Vietnam. Deciding against an open incursion, the Beijing rulers are trying to intimidate the Lao people, concentrating their forces along the border with their country.

At the same time they are relying on provoking separatist movements among the national minorities, of which there are many in little Laos. This concerns above all the Meo tribes, which were utilized by the Americans during their intervention in Indochina. Many can still remember from those times the sinister and, I would say, somewhat mysterious figure who led the Meo separatist bands, the self-styled General Vang Pao, an old CIA agent. After the establishment of the people's power in Laos, he emigrated to the United States but still retained his ambitions, if not his ammunition. And now the French press, which from its long experience usually has good information on Indochina, is reporting that two of Vang Pao's emissaries have been in Beijing, from where they then went over to northern Laos, reaching there somehow, and where together with other Chinese agents they are now trying to fan a rebellion against the people's power.

Thus we see the peculiar baton which the Chinese leaders--a baton of aggressiveness toward Indochina--which the Chinese leaders have taken over from American imperialism.

[Kachanov] We have already had to observe a similar baton in the northeastern states of India. It is known that the leaders of the separatists among the Naga and Mizo nationalities were maintained for a long time by the American special services, and then they transferred to the Chinese services, which are not letting these separatist movements die away. And of course it is not by chance that Prime Minister Desai, speaking the other day at one of the service units situated on the India-China border, called for increased vigilance. Constant combat readiness is necessary, he said, so that it will not be possible for the events of 20 years ago, when China seized a part of India's territory, to be repeated.

[Volskiy] Well, I think that the recent events in Afghanistan also testify to the need for vigilance by China's Asian neighbors. We know what efforts imperialist circles are making in their attempts to incite a bloody counterrevolution, there, a sort of vendetta in that country. The press is saying a lot about this. And to a somewhat lesser degree, but already fairly frequently, reports are beginning to appear of Chinese instructors who are training on Pakistan territory bands of reactionary emigres and religious fanatics coming from Afghanistan, and who are then sending them back into that country in order to carry out subversive acts and attacks on peaceful inhabitants there, to intimidate and terrorize the population, and so forth. In a word, the alliance of the enemies of the peoples of Asia is already in practical action, and against this background the aggression against Vietnam looks not like some kind of isolated, chance action but like a link in a whole chain.

And here is something else to which I would like to draw attention: This aggression is being used in two ways. In the first place, on the pretext that the situation has allegedly become tense in Southeast Asia, the Pentagon is building up its own American Armed Forces in the Far East and the Pacific Ocean, and the 7th Pacific Fleet is being rapidly reequipped and modernized. Accelerated military construction is being carried out on the islands of Micronesia, the UN trust territory which the United States is effectively trying to join unlawfully to the United States by means of legal chicanery. And finally the promise to withdraw regular U.S. Armed Forces from South Korea is being reviewed; on the contrary, there is now the open intention of reinforcing them. This is one side of the matter, and there is another.

Arms Sales to China

In certain organs of the rightwing Western press there are discussions of approximately the following nature concerning the defeat which the Beijing leadership suffered in Vietnam: Insofar, it is alleged, as Beijing's forces did not display fighting qualities, they should be rapidly equipped with new arms. THE FINANCIAL TIMES in London bluntly declares thus: NATO headquarters has come to the conclusion that the Chinese Army, and I quote, has not made much progress since the time of the Korean War, its equipment remains at the level of the fifties and thus, the paper says, China needs no more and no less--and they are even extremely necessary--than such multipurpose aircraft as the Harrier, which, as you remember, comrades, was discussed in the recent talks between British and Chinese representatives, and than tanks and modern rapid-firing rifles. THE FINANCIAL TIMES even bluntly urges the Beijing leadership, I again quote its article, to show interest in long-range bombers.

[Kachanov] Incidentally, concerning the Harrier fighter: A lot has been said in the Western press about the fact that this weapon allegedly has a defensive role.

And now reports have appeared to the effect that China is interested to the utmost degree in obtaining the naval version of this aircraft. But against whom does China need to defend itself at sea? It is being suggested that China needs this naval version of the Harrier aircraft in order to seize the islands to which it is constantly laying claim.

[Volskiy] Yes, that is a very curious report, and it exactly confirms the fact that an extremely dangerous game is being played over possible arms supplies to China and support for Chinese expansionism, a game in which it is not yet known who may outplay whom--either Beijing may outplay NATO, or the Atlantic circles may outplay their Chinese partners--but the fact remains a fact; this game is extremely dangerous, it is fraught with unforeseeable new conflicts, and one may say without being mistaken that it engenders an arms race in Asia and serves as a kind of motivating force for it. Under these conditions it is of course especially obvious that the peace-loving countries of Asia need to coordinate their efforts in the struggle for security on the continent, as was demonstrated during the recent visit to India by Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, and that the countries of Asia need to multiply their efforts in that direction and to try together to build an Asia which would know no conflicts, in which disputes would be resolved by peaceful means, and where there would not be the bloody wars which this ancient continent is encountering today.

Fall of Britain's Labor Government

[Kachanov] Coming back to European problems, I want to remind our listeners that on 28 March the House of Commons of the British Parliament passed by a majority of just one vote a motion of no confidence in the Callaghan Labor government. A vote of no confidence is something extremely rare in British politics, and the last time that happened was 55 years ago. So what led to the fall of the government?

[Kovalev] The point is that for many years now the country has been up against serious economic and social difficulties, and the past year, too, was no exception to that rule. For instance, Britain's balance of trade deficit stood at over 1.1 billion pounds. The country now has about 1.5 million unemployed and this, specialists have calculated, costs Britain about 14 billion pounds yearly: The sum I mention includes the value of lost production plus unemployment benefits. For almost 5 years the Labor government somehow managed to contain the dissatisfaction of the working people. But despite the Labor government's widely publicized measures, there was no real improvement in the plight of the blue- and white-collar workers.

[Kachanov] I would also like to recall that last autumn the government's economic policy was rejected by the British trade union congress, and subsequently at the Labor Party conference, too, the delegates subjected that policy to sharp criticism.

[Kovalev] And yet the Labor ministers went on stubbornly insisting on a belt-tightening policy. After failing to achieve satisfaction of their demands, the trade unions were forced to resort to the working class' tested final instrument--the strike. The size of the strike movement is indicated by this fact, for instance: This January the British lost more than 2 million working days because of strikes. Those are enormous figures, aren't they? The Conservatives took advantage of the acute situation for their own ends. And to all this was added the problem of granting autonomy to Scotland and Wales. The act adopted on this matter and the results of the specially-held referendum did not satisfy the autonomists, and then their MP's turned against the government. Since Labor and Conservatives had an approximately equal number of seats in the House of Commons, the votes of the autonomists proved decisive. Callaghan had to go.

[Kachanov] The election campaign in Britain is now rapidly gathering momentum; after all, the ballot is supposed to be held as early as 3 May.

Party Election Manifestoes

[Kovalev] Yes, that's right. Even the election manifestoes of the country's major parties have already been published. The Labor manifesto concentrates on the economic situation. Labor speaks of the need to fight inflation; it means to work for a revision of the EEC's common agricultural policy, on which it places most of the blame for the present situation. Labor also promises to bring in tougher price controls. At the same time it opposes too great an increase in the earnings of blue- and white-collar workers.

[Kachanov] And in foreign policy, it emerges from the manifesto that the Labor Party attaches special significance to the strengthening of peace and the relaxation of international tension, and to improving relations with the Soviet Union. The manifesto also emphasizes the importance of the successful conclusion of the Soviet-American strategic offensive arms limitation talks.

[Kovalev] Yes, that's right. But on the other hand, the Conservatives are criticizing the former government from an extreme rightwing viewpoint. From the Conservatives' manifesto, it's clear that should it come to power their party intends to unleash a far-reaching offensive against squandering: Among other things, under the pretext of combatting inflation and unemployment, the Tories are planning sharp cuts in state spending on economic development and social needs, which will inevitably lead to a new drop in the working people's living standards. Championing the interests of the private entrepreneurs, the Conservatives also propose handing over such major state companies as British Petroleum and British Airways to private capital. The Tories mean to sharply restrict trade union freedoms. As for foreign policy, the Conservatives proclaim it their purpose to observe all commitments under NATO, including, of course, those regarding the arms race. The Conservatives intend to considerably increase military spending, which has already reached 9 billion pounds yearly.

The British Communists [CPGB], on the other hand, want a sharp reduction in military spending and the funds thus released transferred to the requirements of the economy. The foreign policy part of the Communist Party manifesto contains an appeal to struggle to implement the provisions of the Final Act of the all-European conference in Helsinki, to take Britain out of NATO, and to create a collective security system in Europe.

[Kachanov] Can anything definite be said now about the probable outcome of these elections?

[Kovalev] Probably not. It would be premature to make forecasts. But the British democratic public thinks that Labor can only hope for the electors' support if it assumes firm commitments to fight unemployment, reduce military spending and make social reforms in the interests of the broad strata of the populace.

The Political Committee of the CPGB Executive Committee, recognizing the seriousness of the moment, has urged the country's leftwing parties to unite their efforts, since in this it sees the main prerequisite for future democratic change and for Britain to progress along the path of peace and progress. And for that reason, in constituencies where no Communist Party candidate has been put forward, the Communists are calling for votes for the Labor candidates to prevent a Conservative government from coming to power.

[Kachanov] Our program has come to an end. Goodbye comrades, all the best to you.

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WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT COULD AVERT THREAT OF WAR

LD132238 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The special UN committee for a world conference on disarmament has ended its meeting in New York. Our commentator Aleksandr Druzhinin of Soviet television and radio makes these observations: The proposal for convening such a conference came from the Soviet Union. Many UN countries have supported it and with good reason. Since the problems of disarmament affect the vital interests of all nations, they can be solved through collective efforts only. The Soviet Union maintains that such a conference should consider the entire set of problems essential for curbing the arms race. Soviet concern for disarmament rests on solid grounds. The emergence of new and ever more destructive weapons in the world absorbs financial and material resources that would be sufficient to free millions of people from poverty, hunger and disease. The economic burden caused by the arms race hangs on mankind like a millstone. This is only one aspect of the problem.

[Words indistinct] Trigger-happy politicians lay hands on weapons, they are tempted to use them. Beijing's policy of direct aggression against its neighbors in Southeast Asia provides proof of this. Some other countries, members of NATO above all, are taking advantage of the arms race to conduct a policy from the position of strength, and to attain their selfish political and military objectives in many parts of the world. It's common knowledge that after all that for 30 years since World War II ended, the United States resorted to a show of military strength on 215 occasions, and unleashed two wars of aggression, one in Korea, the other elsewhere in Indochina.

The Soviet Union's stand on disarmament is clearcut and consistent. When Leonid Brezhnev addressed his electorate in Moscow recently, he described the task of averting the threat of a world nuclear war as mankind's most pressing task of the day. The Soviet leader advanced new proposals aimed at promoting trust between countries that took part in the European security conference to conclude an agreement not to be the first to use nuclear as well as conventional arms against each other. In other words, it was a proposal for a kind of nonaggression pact between these countries. Needless to say, a world conference on disarmament could go a long way to settling this most burning problem of our times. It could help create a political climate that would stamp out mankind's fear of a new military catastrophe.

LAOS PROTESTS POL POT REPRESENTATIVE USING UN FOR 'SLANDER'

LD121818 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

[Text] New York, April 12, TASS--A letter of the mission of the Laotian People's Democratic Republic at the United Nations Organisation has been circulated here as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Addressed to the United Nations secretary general, the letter notes that a private person calling himself a "representative" of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary clique, that was overthrown by the people of Kampuchea, is shamelessly using the mechanism of the United Nations Organisation for the circulation of lying statements slandering and viciously attacking some United Nations member-states, in particular Laos and its leaders.

The letter resolutely rejects the slanderous concoctions contained in these statements. The fascist regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, that pursued a policy of genocide inside the country, a policy of provocations and aggression against neighbouring countries--Laos, Vietnam and Thailand, was overthrown in January 1979 and since that time the so-called "Democratic Kampuchea" no longer exists. The Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea gives guidance to the country and is in effective control of the country's entire territory.

U.S. FAILS TO NOTIFY USSR ON UPCOMING 'GLOBAL SHIELD' EXERCISE

LD141318 Moscow TASS in English 1304 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["Provocative Action"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--TASS news analyst Oleg Anichkin writes:

According to the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL agency, the command of the U.S. Strategic Air Force has decided to hold this year big strategic exercises for the "imitation of nuclear war." The exercises, as is pointed out, will be held under the code name "Global Shield" without any additional notification or warning.

A total of 120 thousand servicemen of the strategic air force stationed in 52 military bases in various parts of the world are to take part in the planned exercises. It is reported that rocket weapons will be used without nuclear warheads. It is planned to launch an unarmed intercontinental ballistic missile towards the Pacific Ocean for a distance of 5,000 miles from the range of Vandenberg base situated in California.

As has become known, foreign observers will not be invited. The Soviet Union will not be warned about the time of the exercises in spite of the fact that U.S. strategic bombers will be sent towards the USSR.

In a word, the point at issue is a big military political act, which has been organized, according to the Pentagon's designs around the Soviet Union, as these strategic exercises are planned to be held near our country's borders. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 13 April broadcasts an unattributed commentary virtually identical to this Anichkin commentary, which renders this passage as follows: "In short, it is undoubtedly a question of a large military and political action which, in accordance with Pentagon schemes, has been organized around the Soviet Union. After all, it is planned to hold these strategic maneuvers in the vicinity of our borders."]

It is claimed [the Moscow Domestic commentary reads: "The Pentagon claims..."] that the choice of time for the holding of the exercises will not be linked with any aspect of the international situation at that moment. This means, as a matter of fact, that the American military will be ready to play a sinister farce of nuclear apocalypse practically any time depending on its strategic designs.

Soviet public is also concerned over other things. The Pentagon's large-scale "global games" with the use of strategic offensive arms are held without any preliminary notification. Washington has apparently forgotten that the Final Act of the Helsinki conference, which was also signed by the President of the United States, clearly says that the countries participating in the conference, recognizing the necessity of efforts towards lessening the danger of armed conflict will notify about their big military exercises other member states in the interests of building up confidence and mutual understanding. Many states of the world including the Soviet Union act precisely so, in giving the correct dates and area of the exercises.

It looks like a further deepening of international detente, and in particular the appearing prospect that the Soviet-U.S. SALT treaty will be concluded, scares the American hawks so much that they are ready, like the notorious Doctor Strangelove of Stanley Kubrick's famous film, to blow up the whole world or at least to carry out an imitation of such an explosion, that would be close to reality as much as possible.

In this light, the Pentagon's strategic exercises may prove to be highly risky, in the sense that they will prevent creating a favourable atmosphere at a time when work is being completed on a Soviet-U.S. treaty on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. Does not it seem to Washington that the military strategic games planned by the Pentagon generals are a rather provocative action? Everybody knows how dangerous it is to let children play with matches. But one can clearly understand the dangers stemming from the games of the generals with missile-nuclear weapons.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION ARRIVES AT TBILISI

LD131722 Moscow TASS in English 1626 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

["Guests From the United States"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tbilisi, April 13, TASS--A delegation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress arrived in the Soviet Union today at the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. It is headed by Deputy Democratic Majority Leader in the House of Representatives John Brademas.

At the airport in Tbilisi, the capital of the Trans-Caucasian Republic of Georgia, the delegation was welcomed by deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Supreme Soviet of Georgia, representatives of the public and U.S. Ambassador in the USSR Malcolm Toon.

TASS Interviews Congressman Brademas

LD131932 Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

["U.S. Congressmen in the USSR"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tbilisi, April 13, TASS--A delegation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress arrived here at the invitation of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The delegation is headed by the deputy leader of the Democratic majority in the House John Brademas, Democrat from Indiana.

At Tbilisi airport the delegation was welcomed by Deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, President of the Supreme Soviet of Georgia Irakli Abashidze, representatives of the public, and Ambassador of the USA in the USSR Malcolm Toon.

In an interview for a TASS correspondent John Brademas said: "My colleagues and I are enormously excited at the prospect of spending several days in the Soviet Union. I think we are coming to the Soviet Union at a particularly important time in U.S.-Soviet relationships and we look forward to talking about a number of important issues facing our two countries, including trade relationships, the SALT talks and our relationships with countries of the Third World."

"I think this will be a very constructive period of dialogues," went on John Brademas. "I hope we will help achieve a better understanding of each other's attitudes on the several important issues that will, in turn, hopefully, make it possible to come to agreement on these issues."

The delegation of the House of Representatives will spend two days in Georgia, after which it will fly to Leningrad, and on April 18--to Moscow.

Gilashvili Receives Congressmen

LD141125 Moscow TASS in English 1058 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tbilisi, April 14, TASS--Pavel Gilashvili, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Georgia (Transcaucasus), has today received a delegation of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress. He told the guest about the activity of the republic's Supreme Soviet and the councils of people's deputies. The delegation of U.S. congressmen, who arrived here yesterday, visited Kakhetiya, where they familiarized themselves with historical monuments and went to vine-growing farms.

Speaking in a TASS interview, John Brademas, the head of the delegation, said that they had arrived in the Soviet Union in order to hold talks with Soviet MPs on the most important issues facing the two countries, in the first place, on the limitation of strategic offensive arms and on trade relations. He expressed hope that the talks will be productive and help improve mutual understanding on a number of most important issues, will contribute to a warming up of relations between the USA and the Soviet Union. We are well aware of the fact that our countries have enormous might and this places great responsibility on us, John Brademas said. The current visit, he pointed out, is being held in a period preceding the summit meeting. He also expressed hope that this will be a very constructive dialogue for the leaders of the USA and the USSR.

Shevardnadze Receives Delegation

LD152210 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tbilisi, April 15, TASS--Guests of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet--delegates from the House of Representatives of the USA Congress--were received today by Alternate Politbureau Member of the CPSU CC, First Secretary of the Georgian Communist Party CC Eduard Shevardnadze. The talk was attended by USA Ambassador in the USSR Malcolm Toon.

The delegation made a trip to Kakhetiya. In the town of Guardzhaani the congressmen visited a memorial complex for soldiers who fell in the struggle against fascism. After visiting the memorial Congressman Ronald Dellums told a TASS correspondent that he knew the Soviet Union lost 20 million lives in the past war. The figure staggers the imagination and is the most convincing proof that the Soviet Union cannot want war, he said. He wished, he said, that all in the United States knew about this, and expressed the hope that the two countries could ensure that there would be no more wars on earth, and peace be guaranteed for all mankind.

U.S.-USSR EXCHANGE OF FARMING SPECIALISTS DEVELOPING WELL

LD131650 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Washington, April 13, TASS--The programme for exchanges of young farming specialists between the USSR and the USA is successfully developing. A group of young farmers and specialists got together in the capital of the United States in preparation for a visit to the Soviet Union late in May. The members of the group, who arrived from various states, are now enthusiastically learning the Russian language at the same time, a group of young specialists will simultaneously be sent to the United States. The two countries have exchanged a total of more than 80 young specialists in the course of implementation of the programme for exchanges in this field since 1976. The programme includes familiarisation with agricultural science in the USA and the USSR as well as direct participation of young people in agricultural production.

COMMENTARY SCORES BROWN'S STATEMENTS ON MIDEAST AID

LD142122 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown spoke to members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In his speech he gave a detailed explanation of a draft resolution on providing more aid and loans to Israel and Egypt for rearming the armies of these two countries. Thus, the Carter administration wants to pay the price of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal. The implementation of the provisions of this deal is aimed at safeguarding U.S. imperialist interests in the Middle East.

The speech of the U.S. defense secretary is full of utterances pointing out that the Egyptian-Israeli agreement should be a cornerstone for a comprehensive, just and long-lasting peace which will bring stability to the entire area. This is what Brown said in his statement. But what peace is the U.S. defense secretary talking about when this peace is made an instrument for a mad arms race in the most explosive area in the world? In order to realize these objectives, Washington intends to spend vast amounts of money--estimated at \$6 billion.

Naturally, the lion's share of U.S. military aid--and it has always been the case--will go to the Israeli aggressor. Nevertheless, Egypt also will receive a large sum in the form of loans to pay for U.S. weapons. Washington justifies the new enormous military deliveries to Israel as necessary for guaranteeing Israel's so-called security. This cannot be explained in any other way except as entrenching the aggressive Israeli occupation in the face of the legitimate Arab efforts to liberate the Arab territories and uphold the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

The U.S. defense secretary explains the question of delivering large quantities of weapons to Egypt as necessary for the establishment of effective Egyptian Armed Forces that can become capable of defending the country against external aggression and assist other states in Africa and the Middle East. But, if not Israeli aggression against Egypt, what aggression are they talking about? No one is threatening Egypt except Israel. And to which African and Middle Eastern states can Egypt give military assistance? Facts show that Egypt can give aid to those whose ruling circles are practicing a policy that pleases the imperialists and the Zionists and they include, for example, the pro-imperialist regime of Sultan Qabus, which survives with the support of foreign soldiers. The Egyptian Army has already begun to provide it with assistance for its survival.

COMMENT ON PRC'S SUBVERSIVE ROLE IN AFGHANISTAN

'Anti-Afghan Campaign'

LD121558 Moscow TASS in English 1523 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

["Beijing's New Lie"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 12, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

So, according to the "standards" of international relations which have been followed in Beijing for some time, the sending of terrorists to a foreign country for subversion against its lawful government is classified as "manifestation of goodneighbour relations", while the dispatch of specialists to that country to help it develop its national economy is regarded as "impudent interference in its internal affairs".

These are only some of the many absurdities contained in a recent XINHUA commentary which gives a distorted view of the Soviet Union's internationalist assistance to friendly Afghanistan. Chinese news agency is trying vainly to prove that the Soviet Union seeks to make this sovereign state its "sixteenth republic". In making such allegations XINHUA distorts the essence of Soviet-Afghan relations, calls in question the peaceful character of the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship, goodneighbour relations and cooperation, and casts aspersions on the varied forms of mutually-beneficial ties that are traditionally maintained between the two countries.

XINHUA's commentary is titled "Moscow's Smoke Screen". But even a cursory glance at this commentary is enough to see that it was circulated by XINHUA in order to try and cover up with a smokescreen of lies Beijing's unseemly role in the anti-Afghan campaign, in which the Maoists again team up with the imperialist and Arab reaction.

Judge for yourselves. It is no secret to anyone that the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have signed a number of treaties and agreements providing for selfless Soviet assistance to this developing country in various fields. Suffice it to say that over 100 agricultural, industrial and cultural projects have been built or are being built in Afghanistan with Soviet assistance. This cooperation especially increased after the April revolution in Afghanistan which started radical social and economic transformations on Afghan soil.

How did the Chinese pseudo-friends of Afghanistan react to progressive changes in that developing country? Shortly after the Government of the DRA adopted an anti-imperialist stand in the international arena and began broadening ties with the socialist countries, Beijing stopped any assistance to Afghanistan even under the earlier, rather modest, bilateral cooperation programs. Moreover, Beijing began supporting anti-government elements in Afghanistan.

It is hardly a mere coincidence that the recent events in Herat were preceded by a rally held in the same city by the pro-Chinese grouping by "Sholee Jawid" and "Sorha." At this gathering these groupings reached agreement on joint actions by Maoists and the "Muslim Brothers", a reactionary, pro-monarchist organization. Many members of these groupings were trained in the PRC and were then smuggled with the help of Chinese authorities into the territory of the DRA for staging subversive and terrorist acts.

As was said by A.K. Murzai, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and member of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, they gave assistance to the bandits and cut-throats, participants in the anti-government riots in Herat, attempted to fan up nationalistic and separatist sentiments in the province of Badakhshan and encouraged anti-government actions in the district centre of Fazar.

Chinese instructors are also involved in the training of gangs which are smuggled into Afghanistan from Pakistan. An unending stream of arms, equipment and propaganda materials for subversive activities against the DRA is going by the motor road built by China from Xinjiang to Pakistan. It is known from reliable sources that during the recent visit to Islamabad by a Chinese military delegation, led by Zhang Tingfa, commander of the airforce, the Chinese reaffirmed to the Pakistanis their intentions to supply the Afghan rioters with firearms and to train subversive groups in Beijing. Facts go to show that subversion against Democratic Afghanistan, against the Afghan revolution, holds a big place in Beijing's strategic plans. And no smoke screens of lies and slander will help Beijing to conceal this.

Afghan Saboteurs Trained

OW121402 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 11 Apr 79 OW

[Text] The Beijing leaders have colluded with the reactionaries and imperialists in the world in an attempt to impair Afghanistan's progress and transformation. The Chinese secret service has done its best to incite the Maoist organizations in Afghanistan to cooperate with the most reactionary royalist group known as the Moslem Brothers society. At the request of the society's leaders, the Chinese authorities have accepted nearly 200 of the society's members and agreed to give them special training in sabotage. After completing the special training, these saboteurs will be sent secretly back to Afghanistan to rebel against the Afghan revolutionary people's regime.

POPULAR DISSATISFACTION, DISSENT IN CHINA DESCRIBED

LD140706 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] "Disturbances in China" are described by Skosyrev, IZVESTIYA correspondent in Hong Kong, citing the weekly ASIA WEEK. He writes:

Soon after Mao's death, China's new rulers, striving to strengthen their positions, came out with nebulous promises of democratization and raising the standard of living of the popular masses. These promises gave birth to hopes among many Chinese for changes for the better. This new mood found its most cogent expression on the wallposters, written by inhabitants of Beijing, Shanghai, and by those who arrived from the provinces bearing petitions.

The wallposters told of the arbitrariness and excesses of the local authorities. The posters put forward demands that elementary rights for workers, peasants and intelligentsia be insured.

The rising tide of dissatisfaction seriously alarmed Beijing's top echelons. It was none other than Deng Xiaoping who called the contents of the wallposters disgraceful, in his speech made at the meeting of top party and state officials on 16 March. He let it be understood that action would be taken against the authors of these wallposters. Indeed, the punishing hand of Beijing's secret police was not long in coming.

On 4 April foreign journalists witnessed the arrest of four young Chinese men who were putting up wallposters. In all, more than 30 people were thrown behind bars in the capital in the past few days. Foreign observers in Beijing agree that it is the young people who set the tone for the antigovernment demonstrations in the towns. Many former school children and students were forcibly moved to be reeducated in villages during Mao's life. Now they are illegally returning home to find themselves out of work and without means of subsistence.

The anger of the disappointed young people at times spills over, taking the form of demonstrations and street rebellions. Disturbances recently flared up in Shanghai, Changsha, and (Yuanshi). In Hangzhou hungry people attacked a train with food and other goods.

No matter how dramatic the events in (Hangzhou) and other towns are, observers opine that the growing movement of peasants against the so-called communes presents an even greater danger to the present regime. In southern provinces, cases of insubordination to the authorities and disruption of production brigades in the communes have become more frequent. In general, disturbances in China have become so widespread the Beijing press is forced to write about them more and more often.

WEST ATTEMPTING TO JUSTIFY ARMS SALES TO CHINA

LD141956 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A propaganda campaign has been launched in the West to justify arms sales to Beijing. A special article on the issue appears for example, in the British FINANCIAL TIMES, writes our commentator Viktor Viktorov. The article was sent in from the NATO headquarters in Brussels. Its author does not conceal the fact that he is using arguments prompted to him by NATO analysts.

What are the arguments in favor of satisfying China's needs in arms, asks the paper. It was claimed in the West until recently that China needs arms for defense. The Chinese attack on Vietnam finally exposed Beijing as an aggressive force that is ready to plunge the world into another war. People who would like to profit from military dealings with China have had to look in a hurry for new arguments to justify arms sales to Beijing. So the FINANCIAL TIMES declares allegedly that China is weak. Its army, says the paper, remains at the level it was at the time of the Korean War, that is 30 years ago. For this reason, claims the FINANCIAL TIMES, arms sales to Beijing will hardly turn the Chinese war machine into the most powerful and aggressive one. Hence this logical conclusion: No obstacles should be put up to Beijing's desire to get the latest weapons. There is allegedly no threat to anyone from that.

In his time Mao Zedong said this: We are stronger than we were and will become much stronger. We shall not only have more planes and guns, but more atom bombs too. Mao's heirs are doing their utmost to implement these ambitious plans. At present China has an army of nearly 4 million men. This is the largest ground force in the world. The country's military spending exceeds 40 percent of its budget. The 120 large facilities to be built before 1985 cover primarily the main branches of military industries. Plans have been announced for an all-round modernization of the Chinese Armed Forces. The Beijing leaders expect to carry out the plans quickly with NATO arms, and the Western military concerns are ready to satisfy Beijing's militaristic appetite.

Britain intends to conclude agreements with China for deliveries of Harrier planes, tanks and naval vessels. The United States has begun selling modern equipment to China that can be used for military purposes. The West German concern Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm, dodging a government decision, has signed a treaty with Beijing for cooperation in space technology and aircraft building. It is easy to see that all this is playing with fire. Calculations to channel the aggressive ambitions of the Beijing leaders is a direction suitable for the West. Look, at least, at the presumptuous naivete. Beijing entertains great-power hegemonistic plans. It can carry out the plans only by means of force. To supply arms to Beijing means to encourage its militaristic designs for conquest or, in other words, to create a threat to world peace.

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
NORTHEAST ASIA

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PRAVDA DISCUSSES WASHINGTON-TOKYO-SEOUL MILITARIST 'POOL'

LD120922 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 12, TASS--Under the headline "At Somebody Else's Expense" PRAVDA carries a comment by D. Kosyrev, which runs:

"Kim Chong-hwang, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of South Korea, left Tokyo a few days ago. Chief of Staff of the Ground Forces of Japan General Nagano is going to reciprocate the visit to Seoul soon. He will be followed by head of Japan Defence Agency Ganri Yamashita. Upon the return from Seoul the Japanese generals will be expected in Washington. Visit follows visit--Japanese and South Korea's military men now display an enhanced activity. In actual fact, the point in question is a series of consultations of the military leadership of the three countries. It is easy to guess what is being discussed--consolidation of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul militarist "pool".

"In the past few months Washington has been trying to assert a new strategy of the United States in the Far East. The rhetoric relating to "withdrawal of troops" from South Korea has been discarded: The American military presence is being preserved and strengthened there. An American-South Korean joint command was formed--the Seoul Army and the American troops on Korean soil will be under it. Japan is being pushed still further along the road of militarisation.

"The build up of the U.S. military potential in the Pacific is planned to be speeded up in the 1980s. A new character is to be lent to the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul alliance. In the 1980s the Pentagon intends to transfer its main naval forces from the Far East to the Indian Ocean basin--to patch in "the strategic system" a breach that formed after the "loss" of Iran".

JAPAN TO CREATE NEW FORM OF COLONIALISM IN AFRICA

LD122340 Moscow TASS in English 1929 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

["A Neocolonialist Plan"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, April 12, TASS--The Japanese Government has adopted a programme of increasing capital investments in Common Market countries. In the opinion of the strategists from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Industry, the fulfillment of this programme may reduce for a certain period of time the balance of payments deficits of the countries of the "Nine", which are complaining for many years already about the deficit in their trade with Japan. Last year alone it increased by twenty percent to reach 9.2 billion dollars.

On the other hand, the Japanese believe that the subsidiaries of Japanese corporations in EEC countries will find it easier to infiltrate those countries of Africa that have close economic relations with Western Europe.

Africa's rich resources and cheap manpower are long attracting Japanese businessmen. More than 12 percent of direct Japanese investments in developing countries are in Africa. But the West European monopolies, that have entrenched themselves in a number of African countries, are doing everything to keep their rivals out of that area. The Japanese programme of increasing capital investments in EEC countries is intended, in the opinion of the press, "to combine Japanese technology with the European knowledge of Africa". In other words, the Japanese Government strives to create a new form of collective neocolonialism to exploit Africa's natural wealth.

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JAPAN-U.S. TRADE, ECONOMIC DIFFERENCES SHARPENING

LD141045 Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 14, TASS--The trade and economic differences between Japan and the USA are increasingly sharpening. As Japanese Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda, who returned from a visit to Washington, said addressing the cabinet meeting, the American side had again expressed serious discontent with the huge imbalance in bilateral trade in Japan's favour. U.S. deficit in trade with Japan is known to reach last year the huge figure of 11.6 billion dollars.

Sonoda also spoke about the protectionist sentiments growing in the White House and U.S. Congress. According to the Tokyo newspapers, J. Carter's administration, put forward a number of demands and insisted that Japan give consent to the purchase of 7.5 billion worth of electronic products from American concerns as well as the speediest removal of customs barriers in the way of American computers, semiconductors and other products exported to Japan, increase the purchases of coking coal and farm products.

The Japanese press draws attention to the sharp overtures and the ultimative character of the statement by the United States insisting that Japan accept a concrete decision on all conditions before the start of the visit of Japanese Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira scheduled for early in May this year. If it fails to do so, S. Sonoda was told in Washington, Japan's intransigence may only have a negative effect on the results of the forthcoming Japanese-American summit meeting and the state of relations between the two states as a whole, the newspaper ASAHI writes.

Local observers point out that Sonoda's visit to the USA has not brought about the desired results, while leaving open the question of settlement of friction between Japan and the United States in the field of trade and economy, which has assumed a permanent character.

DEFECTIVE U.S. REACTORS IN JAPAN CONCERN PUBLIC

LD131648 Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 13, TASS--Nine American atomic reactors of the same time [as received] as that of the Harrisburg atomic power plant in Pennsylvania, USA, where recently a dangerous leak of radio-active substances developed, are now operating in Japan. Referring to the notification of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the newspaper YOMIURI says that all the reactors of this design, put out by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, have a defect which may cause a radio-active leak. Seven out of these nine reactors are installed at the Fukui electric power plant, where the newspaper's report caused serious anxiety.

SUSLOV MEETS WITH JCP'S NISHIZAWA, TACHIKI IN MOSCOW

LD131833 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] A meeting was held today at the CPSU Central Committee between Suslov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Nishizawa, vice chairman of the Communist Party of Japan [JCP] Central Committee Presidium, and Tachiki, member of the JCP Central Committee Presidium. During the meeting, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, the participants exchanged opinions on questions of mutual interest and on questions concerning the further development of interparty relations.

CIA-CONTROLLED RADIO STATION TO BEGIN URDU PROGRAMS

LD131718 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1300 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] New facts have come to light indicating that the United States is stepping up its ideological offensive on the Asian countries. The Voice of Free Asia, a radio station controlled by the CIA, soon intends to begin broadcasting in Urdu. This will increase its broadcasting time by 2 hours a day. This will boost the flow of lies and misinformation which that radio station spews out. The provocative nature of the Voice of Free Asia programs has been pointed out time and again by politicians and statesmen of Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, India, Burma and other countries. They have presented irrefutable evidence about the close ties between that radio station and the United States Central Intelligence Agency.

The CIA has set up a whole number of fake organizations and agencies to supervise the activities of different radio stations and other outlets of imperialist propaganda in the developing countries of Asia. For instance, the notorious Asia Foundation has been functioning on the continent for many years already. The foundation receives regular handouts from the CIA, spreads slanderous and subversive literature and periodicals as well as for shoving into the Asian press material that has been penned by American intelligence men. The foundation has its headquarters in San Francisco, and its branches operate in Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong, the Philippines and certain other countries.

The Asia Foundation also has other ideological functions, including handpicking journalists from the Asian countries to undergo training at American universities. It goes without saying that one of the mandatory conditions is that they must collaborate with the American intelligence, naturally to the detriment of their homeland. The Asia Society, founded by John Rockefeller, also has close ties with the CIA. It turns out special news bulletins which whitewash the activities of American corporations in Asia. One of the latest symposiums for business circles of the Asian countries sponsored by that society was called "the United States and South Asia--Strategic Interests" with the emphasis on shoring up the positions of American capital on the continent.

The CIA also steers the activities of the ill-famed Anti-Communist League of Asian Peoples which, for a quarter of a century already, has been busy spewing out really filthy anticommunist propaganda. The objective of the league is to actively struggle against national liberation movements in Asia, to implant reactionary regimes and organizations and to support pro-Western forces in Asia. Therefore, the facts clearly indicate that the United States Central Intelligence Agency has nurtured a whole network of sham organizations engaged in subversive propaganda on the Asian Continent. In these conditions progressive functionaries realize the need for greater vigilance and resolute measures to check the ideological diversions of imperialism which are aimed at undermining the sovereignty and national independence of the developing Asian countries. For instance, the delegates to the recent international conference on problems of mass media in countries of Asia and Oceania held in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur presented numerous facts about the CIA's penetration of the mass media in Asian countries and the churning out of subversive imperialist propaganda. At that conference the head of the Indian delegation, (Man Sital), said: We want to see the world with our own eyes, the eyes of the developing countries, and not with the eyes of American subversive services and agencies.

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REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

Demonstrations Show Government Support

LD151858 Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 15, TASS--All working people of Afghanistan are giving broad support to the latest DRA Government statements about machinations by external reactionaries against the gains of the April revolution. Reports reaching Kabul say numerous meetings and processions were held in recent days in nearly all of the country's provinces. Scores of thousands of workers, peasants, intellectuals strongly condemned reactionary interference, with imperialist support, in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's internal affairs. The BAKHTAR agency reports that a big manifestation was held in Asadabad--the centre of Kunar Province, in the east of the country. The population of the city strongly condemned the armed attacks launched from Pakistani territory by reactionary bands and pledged full support for the April revolution and their readiness to protect their motherland.

A mass rally in the city of Baglan turned into a vivid manifestation of support for the gains of the April revolution. A prominent religious figure of Afghanistan, Moulavi Abdul Hady Muhtadj, who addressed the rally, denounced the aggressive actions by the DRA's external enemies and the machinations of the reactionary organization--the "Muslim Brothers" who seek to undermine the gains of the April revolution. The patriotic priesthood, he stressed, pledges support to the measures of the revolutionary government directed at defending the Afghani people against the machinations by the reaction. Bourgeois propagandists and imperialist minions, seeing that as a result of the establishment of the people's system in Afghanistan their interests are threatened, are attempting by all means to foment dissent between state power and the people in the DRA, writes the paper the KABUL TIMES. Actual life and state measures demonstrate that the people and the authorities in the DRA are a single whole, the paper underlines. The state implements progressive measures in the interests of the people, while the people supports it and expresses readiness to defend their land from encroachments by imperialism, international reaction and their lackeys.

PRC Aid to Counterrevolutionaries

LD141420 Moscow TASS in English 1351 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 14, TASS--The Afghan news agency BAKHTAR writes:

We know for certain that it is China that trains counterrevolutionary elements in its territory, arms them, and then infiltrates them into our territory for counterrevolutionary activities. This is evidenced by irrefutable documents and facts as well as by arms withdrawn from counterrevolutionaries.

Taraki Speech Exalts Workers

LD160622 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 15, TASS--Our people's party belongs to the working people, to 98 per cent of Afghanistan's population. Wherever we are and whatever we are doing, it is always in the service of the Afghani people, reflecting its interests, utilizing its experience, stated here the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council Nur Mohammad Taraki.

Having stressed that matters do not end with the promulgation of the party's programme, he urged all to work hard towards implementing the programme, by leaning on the people's support. Our party, Nur Mohammad Taraki said, has unbreakable ties with the progressive working-class parties of the world. And this is why its international position is very strong.

In the last 60 years, Nur Mohammad Taraki said, the world has split into two systems. One of them is the world of workers and working people, and the other is the world of capitalists and exploiters. The working people of Afghanistan do not take a neutral position. They belong to the world of the workers. We conduct a peace-loving policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, a policy of preserving our territorial integrity and independence. We condemn oppression and support the oppressed.

Speaking of the April revolution, Nur Mohammed Taraki said that nobody gave the Afghan's advice and instructions on how to act. However, the imperialists and their minions allege that it was the "hand of Moscow". Such assertions are not new. The truth is that the Great October Revolution inspired not only the Afghani people. It continues to inspire all oppressed peoples. This, however, does not mean, that it can be exported.

Supreme Defense Council Meeting

LD142054 Moscow TASS in English 2037 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, April 14, TASS--A meeting of the Supreme Defence Council of Afghanistan has been held here under the chairmanship of Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. At the meeting of the Supreme Defence Council, the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reports, a high appraisal has been given to activity of the population of the country in defending the gains of the April revolution. The council members also discussed questions of strengthening the defensive capacity of Afghanistan and measures to prevent reactionary actions.

SOVIET OFFICIAL REAFFIRMS SOVIET-INDIAN FRIENDSHIP

LD122130 Moscow TASS in English 1705 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 12, TASS--"The Soviet-Indian relations are a vivid example of successful cooperation of states with differing social system," a TASS correspondent was told by Nikolay Goldin, president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society and minister [of construction of heavy industry enterprises] of the USSR. He gave an interview on the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The Soviet people are observing broadly this momentous date. Anniversary meetings are being held in different towns of the country. Cooperating of Soviet public circles with the Indian-Soviet cultural society will expand this year, Goldin said. Thus, memorable dates in the life of the Indian people will be observed broadly, among others, the anniversary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore, whose name is well-known in the Soviet Union. Meetings of Soviet and Indian young people promise to be interesting and useful, as well as the seminar on India which will be organized for Soviet public representatives. Delegations of public organizations and experts in different fields of knowledge will be exchanged extensively.

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Goldin stressed that in all spheres of "cooperation both countries act as equal partners reckoning with each other's interests." "These principles, he said, have found full reflection in the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India, signed in August 1971. They received further development in the course of the visits paid to India by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (November 1973), and Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR (March 1979)."

PRC ACTIVITIES IN SOUTH ASIA CONCERN INDIA

LD140922 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["China's Subversive Acts"--TASS headline]

[Text] Delhi, April 14, TASS--The Indian press is expressing concern over China's increasing interference in the internal affairs of India, Afghanistan and other neighbour states.

As a special correspondent of the newspaper PATRIOT reports from Srinagar (Indian Jammu and Kashmir states), more than a thousand saboteurs trained and armed by China are massed on the Pakistan-Afghan border. Their task, the newspaper points out, is to give military support to the subversive elements financed by the Western imperialist circles and coming out against the legitimate government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The PATRIOT stresses that nearly 6,000 persons of the Pakistani nationality have underwent military training since 1973 at a special camp in Kashgar (China's Sinkiang Province).

At present, the newspaper points out, the Chinese agents are intensively spreading anti-Indian propaganda books in Kashmir. It says that the PRC "supports all the national liberation movements, including the movement for the liberation of Jammu and Kashmir," which are part of the Republic of India.

India's progressive public and press, the PATRIOT writes demand that an end be put to China's crude interference in the internal affairs of India and other sovereign states.

INDIA TAKES MEASURES AGAINST POSSIBLE PRC ATTACK

LD141040 Moscow TASS in English 1015 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 14, TASS--In a speech on Indian television Jagjivan Ram, India's deputy prime minister, minister of defence, said China's armed aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam is compelling India and other countries of the region to see to their defence in case of a possible attack by Chinese troops.

He said India does everything to ease tension in relations with the PRC. Up to now, however, India's efforts have not brought the desired results owing to Beijing's expansionist policy. The minister said that, taking into consideration the latest developments, India is taking measures to prevent the Chinese from intruding into India's territory across the Himalayas either on land or by air.

SRV'S GOOD WILL IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRC HAILED

OW142207 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 13 Apr 79 OW

[Unattributed station commentary]

[Text] "Vietnam is ready to hold talks with China and sincerely hopes the talks will begin and end successfully," said Comrade Phan Hien, SRV deputy foreign minister and head of the Vietnamese delegation to the forthcoming talks, in a statement made in Hanoi.

Our station commentator wrote: On several occasions, Vietnam has proposed that Beijing join it in resolving pending mutual problems through peaceful negotiations. However, until recently, China just ignored Vietnam's proposals and only recently did the Chinese side inform the Vietnamese that a Chinese delegation, headed by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Han Nianlong, will arrive in Hanoi on 14 April. Comrade Phan Hien pointed out that in the talks urgent measures will be discussed aimed at maintaining peace and stability on the Sino-Vietnamese border as well as the question of restoring normal relations between the two countries. Comrade Phan Hien stressed that the coming Hanoi talks must tackle the question involving relations between the two sides and no third party should be involved.

Vietnam has again manifested its good will through its readiness to hold talks, although China has not yet withdrawn all its troops from Vietnamese territory and Chinese troops continue to occupy 15 points on Vietnamese soil. Beijing still positions large army units--nine army corps in all--on its border with Vietnam. The Chinese militarists have staged armed provocations against Vietnam and have shelled Vietnamese territory. These acts are actually part of their scheme to exert pressure on the SRV before the negotiations begin.

The Beijing ruling circles are again launching a large-scale propaganda campaign to slander the SRV. XINHUA and other Chinese propaganda agencies affirm that the Vietnamese Army is seemingly causing a tense border situation. With these deceitful allegations, Beijing is scheming to conceal the criminal acts it is perpetrating on Vietnam's border with China and mislead world public opinion.

Time will tell whether or not the Chinese side will show its good will in negotiations. Facts have shown that Vietnam has always shown its good will in seeking to normalize relations with China. Vietnam's readiness to hold talks with the Chinese side under the present conditions proves that now, as before, Vietnam always demonstrates its good will. By this willingness, Socialist Vietnam is contributing to maintaining stability and peace in Southeast Asia.

PHAM VAN DONG SCORES BEIJING'S AMBITIONS, EXPANSIONISM

LD131850 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

["Interview by Pham Van Dong"--TASS headline]

[Text] Jakarta, April 13, TASS--The Vietnamese proposal to hold negotiations with China for discussing bilateral problems testifies once again to our sincere desire to restore friendly Vietnamese-Chinese relations and to promote stronger peace and stability in Southeast Asia, stated the prime minister of the SRV Government Pham Van Dong.

However, the policy of the Chinese rulers, he said in an interview for the Indonesian ANTARA agency, has not changed. As before, it is based on the principles of hegemonism and expansionism not only in regard to Vietnam, but to other countries of our region as well.

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Beijing's ambitions are clearly expressed in statements by Chinese leaders. They put forth territorial claims to neighbouring states. Nor should one forget that the united, sovereign and independent Vietnam is an obstacle to the implementation of Beijing's expansionist plans.

The peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, the prime minister stressed, are struggling against the policy of great-power expansionism and hegemonism conducted by Beijing. The strengthening solidarity between Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos is one of the necessary requirements of struggle against a common enemy, in defence of our sacred national rights.

The solidarity of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, Pham Van Dong said, has nothing in common with the so-called "federation of Indochina."

Beijing is talking about a federation only in order to divide and weaken these three countries so as to enable it to easily annex them one by one. The peoples of Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos strive to develop good relations, strengthen cooperation and solidarity in the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. This concerns these three countries alone, and no-one is entitled to interfere.

The Soviet Union has always been Vietnam's friend, the prime minister stated, and it has given and is giving the Vietnamese people great and effective aid and support in its struggle for independence and freedom.

CHINA CONTINUES MILITARY ACTIVITY ON VIETNAM BORDER

II132104 Moscow TASS in English 1902 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

["The Beijing Hegemonists Aggravate Tension"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, April 13, TASS--The Beijing hegemonists are not discarding their plans of seizing Vietnamese territory. As of today, Chinese troops continue to occupy 15 points in Vietnam's border region, staying at a distance from 100 to 500 metres from the border. The Chinese are building powerful fortifications on the border with Vietnam and roads on Chinese territory leading to Vietnam. Thus, they are building a road in the area from Mong Cai to Lang Son where previously the Chinese aggressors were hampered by the absence of roads.

According to reports reaching here, the Chinese have concentrated several army corps in the zone bordering on Vietnam. These corps are deployed much closer to the Vietnamese border than at the time of the withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnam.

The border Chinese military units are being replaced by new ones brought from other areas. All this shows that on the eve of the Vietnamese-Chinese talks the aggressors are continuing to whip up tension in the border area and creating an atmosphere of military pressure.

Firing at Vietnamese territory from the direction of China continues. Chinese agents are being sent into Vietnam. Chinese troops are also concentrating on the border with Laos.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE REJECTS PRC 'FABRICATIONS'

LD141128 Moscow TASS in English 1054 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 14, TASS--The SRV Foreign Ministry has addressed a note to the PRC Foreign Ministry rejecting the slanderous fabrications and impudent demands of the Chinese side put forward in the note of the Chinese Foreign Ministry of April 13.

The note points out that before the start of the Vietnamese-Chinese talks in Hanoi at the level of deputy foreign ministers, the moves taken by China's ruling circles are indicative of their superficial attitude to the talks. China's actions run counter to the aspirations of peace-loving peoples in Southeast Asia and all over the world, to their striving to restore peace and stability in that region as soon as possible.

The Vietnamese side, the SRV Foreign Ministry declared, has always displayed good will and a sincere wish to hold talks with China for the restoration of normal relations between the two countries and strengthening stability in Southeast Asia.

SUBBOTNIK PROCEEDS TO BE USED TO AID VIETNAM

LD142136 Moscow TASS in English 2128 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 15, TASS--The CPSU Central Committee, the Council of Ministers of the USSR, the Central Council of the Soviet Trade Unions and the Komsomol Central Committee, guided by the principled internationalist stand of the CPSU and the Soviet state and meeting numerous proposals and wishes of the Soviet people, have decided to send 75 per cent of the means to be got from the holding of the all-union communist subbotnik devoted to the 109th anniversary of the birth of Lenin, to the fund of assistance to Vietnam which suffered from the barbarous aggression of China.

This undertaking testifies once again of the warm feelings of solidarity of the Soviet people with the people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the desire to give them fraternal assistance in rehabilitation of the national economy which suffered from the Chinese aggression.

The rest of the means to be got from the all-union subbotnik will be spent for the construction of specialised hospitals for children, polyclinics, sanatoria, and forest schools.

CAMPAIGN TO AID NORTHERN VIETNAMESE PROVINCES SPREADS

LD140728 Moscow TASS in English 0611 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 13, TASS--The nation-wide movement for the aid to the provinces ravaged by the Chinese aggression is daily acquiring an ever-broader scale in Socialist Vietnam. There is no city, plant or cooperative in the republic which does not send food, medicine and other essentials to the provinces of Hoang Lien Son, Lang Son and Cao Bang where the aggressors went on a rampage.

The public organizations of the biggest city in the south of the country, Ho Chi Minh, joined the labour emulation under the motto "Work for our compatriots in the northern border provinces." The workers in Ho Chi Minh are regularly holding days of communist labour and are sending the money earned on the days to the fund of aid to the population. Many young people asked the city committee of the Young Communist League to send them to the frontline of the struggle to participate in the rehabilitation of the border areas and defend the northern frontiers of their country against possible new provocations by Beijing.

On the initiative of the Vietnamese trade unions, each enterprise, especially those producing consumer goods, is allocating part of its products for the free distribution among the workers and peasants in the border areas.

A considerable aid to the victims of the Chinese aggression is coming from the workers and peasants of Hanam Ninh.

During the past several days, alone, they sent to the north over one thousand tons of food and two hundred tons of cement. In many Vietnamese cities, schoolchildren are collecting textbooks, educational aids and stationery for children in the north. This aid help to resume schooling at a number of schools in Lao Cai and a number of communities in Cao Bang.

The whole of Vietnam is full of determination to normalize life in the border provinces in the shortest time possible.

NHAN DAN CITED ON RATIFICATION OF SRV-KAMPUCHEA TREATY

LD141243 Moscow TASS in English 1220 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["Growing Solidarity"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, April 14, TASS--The ratification instruments of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea, signed in Phnom Penh on February 18, this year, were exchanged here.

Today it is perfectly clear, emphasises NHAN DAN, newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, that Beijing hegemonists' policy with regard to Kampuchea failed completely. This is a new success of the revolutionary army and the heroic people of Kampuchea who resolutely uphold their sacred right to self-determination. No one now has any doubts about the fact that the Kampuchean people became the genuine masters of its country.

The treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Kampuchea, NHAN DAN points out, is an important earnest of successes of the revolution in each of these countries, of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, and contributes to preserving peace throughout the world. Beijing's reactionary group is in every way trying to distort the meaning of the treaty. We are stating in all clarity: The presence of Vietnam's armed forces in Kampuchea is determined by the treaty and is agreed upon by the governments of the two countries. This concerns only the relations between our two states and no one else has a right to interfere in this matter.

CUBAN MINISTER INVITES PHAM VAN DONG TO NONALIGNED SUMMIT

LD131652 Moscow TASS in English 1347 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 13, TASS--Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Pham Van Dong has pointed to the great significance of the coming conference of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries and highly appreciated Cuba's contribution to the development of the non-alignment movement.

He received here Cuban Minister [of Mines & Geology] Manuel Cespedes Fernandez, who on behalf of the chairman of the State Council of Cuba, Fidel Castro, extended an invitation to the president and the prime minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to participate in the sixth summit conference of non-aligned countries, which is to be held in Havana in September.

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the prime minister said, will exert every effort to make its contribution to the successful holding of the conference and to thwart all designs of the forces of imperialism and international reaction aimed at undermining the non-alignment movement.

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E 5

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
SOUTHEAST ASIA AND PACIFIC

PENTAGON'S 'HAND' SEEN IN AUSTRALIAN MILITARY ACTIVITY

LD121223 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Apr 79 P 3 LD

[V. Vinogradov article: "At the Pentagon's Bidding" under the rubric "International Notes"]

[Text] In the next 5 years Australia plans to spend some \$14 billion [Australian or U.S. dollars not specified] on purchases of weapons and military equipment from abroad. Reporting this is the country's Parliament, Defense Minister D. Killen also announced that Australia will be considerably increasing its military spending in the new fiscal year and intends to continue to do so.

It should be pointed out that when M. Fraser's Conservative government came to power a few years ago, and reestablished close military ties with the United States, Australia stepped up its military activity sharply. Particular attention was given in this regard to its membership in the ANZUS military bloc, whose members include--apart from Australia--the United States and New Zealand. As the Defense Ministry announced, one of the chief demands made of the country's armed forces is to fulfill the commitments that go with Australia's participation in this military grouping.

The current and planned increased in Australia's military spending, much of which will go to acquiring weapons from abroad, is a consequence of such commitments. And whereas at first it was a matter of purchasing military equipment from traditional suppliers like the United States and Britain, Australia is now acquiring tanks from the FRG, artillery from Switzerland, and is ready to purchase aircraft equipment from Israel.

However, Canberra's increase militarist activity is not confined to building up various armaments for its army. It is marked by Australia's emergence into the Pacific Ocean arena. In particular, it is demonstrated by Australia's attempts, clearly made at the bidding of the United States, to draw a number of young states in the region into collaborating with the ANZUS bloc. Thus the newspaper THE AUSTRALIAN recently wrote with satisfaction that the government of the Cook Islands plans, allegedly, to join the pact. These islands, the report stressed, can be of "great benefit" to the ANZUS bloc, since they have a deepwater harbor and an airfield capable of taking heavy aircraft.

The Pentagon's hand can also be discerned in the fact that Australia has noticeably stepped up its relations with countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). As is known, this organization was created for cooperation in the economic sphere, but Canberra is earnestly pressing military contacts upon its members. Last month, for example, an agreement was signed whereby military airmen from Singapore began to undergo training at Australian airforce bases. Servicemen from the Asian states of Indonesia and Malaysia are already undergoing such training at Australian bases under existing agreements. Australian Navy vessels have become frequent visitors at the ports of the ASEAN countries, carrying out regular joint exercises with local navies. Australia also gives military aid to ASEAN members, which includes the supply of small arms and aircraft.

In light of such activities, Australia's decision to spend \$14 billion on military equipment is promoting the arms race in this part of the world. The new military equipment purchased will go to the Australian Army, supplanting the outmoded weapons. These will in turn, as shown by experience, be passed on by Canberra, within the framework of military aid, to the ASEAN countries.

The policy of Australia's Conservative government, which in military matters acts on the Pentagon's orders, is causing resentment among the countries' public and is being criticized as conflicting with the interests of the peace and security of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific Ocean basin.

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
WESTERN EUROPE

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FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER ON GISCARD'S UPCOMING USSR VISIT

LD131630 Moscow TASS in English 1300 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Paris, April 13, TASS--Speaking to the Senate's Commission for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces, Foreign Minister of France Jean Francois-Poncet has emphasized that the forthcoming negotiations of President of France Valery Giscard d'Estaing with Soviet leaders in Moscow will be of great significance for the continuation of the policy of detente.

Touching upon the Israeli-Egyptian separate deal, Jean Francois-Poncet has said that France advocates a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East on the basis of a just solution of the Palestinian problem.

COMMENTARY SCORES PORTUGUESE ADMIRAL'S ARTICLE ON NATO

LD150705 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 2100 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Valeriy Ivanov commentary: "Adm Souto Cruz' Statements"]

[Text] In an article published in the Portuguese General Staff review BALUARTE, Adm Souto Cruz, Portuguese deputy chief of the Armed Forces General Staff, states that NATO has succeeded in insuring in Europe the conditions of stability necessary for the defense of freedom, democracy, civilization and human rights. The admiral states, moreover, that in his opinion, NATO is a bastion of the Western values and was and still is a counterweight to offset the policies pursued by the Soviet Union.

These statements remind us of the days of Salazar and Caetano, when Portuguese official propaganda and the militarist generals willingly picked up any fabrications about the alleged Soviet threat concocted at NATO headquarters. The question which many Portuguese might undoubtedly ask Adm Souto Cruz, namely, how and to what extent does the Soviet Union threaten Portugal, would be a reasonable one. They might also ask how one can justify the ever-increasing military expenditures of NATO countries and the countless acts of aggression and interference by NATO in the internal affairs of the European countries, including Portugal, with gibberish about the defense of freedom, democracy and civilization.

As is known, one of the manifestations of the NATO leaders' militarist plans is the demand made to their partners to increase their military allocations. This demand also concerns Portugal. It only means further expenditures, inadmissible for the country's economy, which is currently going through a serious crisis. But is the arms race the best way to consolidate European security? It is very unlikely that this will be understood by the Portuguese workers or that this corresponds to the country's interests.

PCI MUST PARTICIPATE IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO SOLVE CRISIS

LD120927 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 8 Apr 79 p 3 LD

[Report by "our special correspondent" G. Dadyants: "In the Final Analysis" under "Reportage From Italy" rubric]

[Text] Rome, Moscow--Italy is going through a profound economic, political and moral crisis. It is rooted in the general decay of capitalist society, although it does have its own peculiar "Italian aspect" by virtue of the distinctive features of the development of Italian capitalism and local political mores.

Everybody you meet these days in Italy acknowledges in some way or another that, deep-down, the cause of the crisis is the lack of a proper direction in the life of the nation and that the general course of affairs is one of decline. And if Italy today is continuing to resist political and economic chaos it is only because its most healthy, dynamic forces are making their mark both in the economic and political sphere. At the moment these forces are managing to protect the democratic system which is under attack from fascist conspirators and "leftwing" terrorists.

Without doubt the Christian Democratic Party [DC] is chiefly responsible for the current situation in Italy. For over 30 years it has abused its monopoly of power. Since the fall of the Andreotti cabinet the DC leaders have systematically rejected all reasonable proposals aimed at surmounting the government crisis. They stubbornly refuse to cooperate effectively with the other democratic parties in order to create a government and a ruling majority guaranteeing stability in the country and effective government.

For the third time in the last 10 years, Italy is faced with the dissolution of parliament and early elections. But the problem is the same. The entire course of postwar Italian domestic political development has demonstrated that the Italian Communist Party [PCI], which represents the broad masses of the working people, must participate in running affairs. All people of commonsense acknowledge this.

The PCI, whose 15th congress ended the other day in Rome, was prepared to make, and did make, certain concessions in order to reach a reasonable compromise with the other parties. But the DC did not reciprocate. Moreover, it tried to use the PCI's readiness to cooperate for its own political ends--to pursue a policy alien to the people. At the same time the Christian Democrats demanded further concessions from the Communists, including concessions on fundamental issues. However, A. Cossutta, member of the PCI leadership, stressed in his congress speech that the Communist Party cannot abandon its principles and its ideological direction based on the doctrine of Marx, Engels and Lenin and "become a kind of mass social democratic party."

Some people I met in Rome expressed the idea that it would be easier to reach an understanding with the Italian Communists if they broke with the socialist countries, primarily the Soviet Union, and thus demonstrated their loyalty to the bourgeois parties. E. Berlinguer, secretary general of the PCI, called this theory unacceptable. "It is absurd to demand that we sever our own roots and cut our ties with the October Revolution and with the achievements and ideas of Lenin from whence the Italian working class derived the impetus to create and build its own revolutionary party."

Despite the difficulties connected with the development of the crisis within the country, Italy cannot be preoccupied solely by its own problems. It cannot be indifferent to the fate of international peace and security. Chinese aggression in Vietnam was a big shock to public opinion in the country. Even those who only yesterday were not adverse to playing the "China card"--even if only in economic policy--were perplexed and bewildered. I witnessed many demonstrations, in particular demonstrations in the Piazza Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome in which workers, employees and students demanded an immediate end to Chinese aggression.

Italians are well aware that the main thing today is to avoid a nuclear catastrophe, the danger of which has far from been eliminated. I spent a free evening with the well-known Italian artist Gregorio Sciltiana who showed me a new canvas painted in the manner of Raphael--called "Nuclear Death." You can stand in front of this picture for hours--it horrifies and, at the same time, warns mankind.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WESTERN EUROPE

The processes taking place in Italian life, just as in the life of any other capitalist state, are contradictory. The north bristles with tens of thousands of clenched fists brandished by the striking workers of Milan, in the south the unemployed of Naples rumble like Vesuvius. Meanwhile, insouciant Venice dances in carnival costume on the Piazza San Marco surrounded by the buzzing cameras of foreign tourists. I would like to think that Italy's future will be decided in the final analysis by the commonsense and warm hearts of the Italian people.

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT'S FOOD PRICE HIKES CAUSE DISCONTENT

LD132156 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 1400 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow Radio correspondent Igor Fesunenko reports from Lisbon:

In Portugal the prices of nearly all foodstuffs have gone up by 18 percent. The resolution to increase the prices, announced by the minister of trade and tourism yesterday, caused a wave of discontent, criticism and protest. Justifying the resolution, the government as a pretext invoked the country's economic difficulties, the fall in foreign trade revenues, the fall in the production of major agricultural products and oil price increases on the world market.

The progressive press states that all these factors have a negative influence on the country's problems, but adds that the main cause for this new and heavy blow to the family income of all Portuguese lies in the government's wish--in its search for a solution to the crisis--to transfer all the weight of the hardships onto the shoulders of the popular masses.

LARGEST U.S. BASE IN GREECE MAY BE MOVED TO SPARTA

LD131750 Moscow in Greek to Greece 1600 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] According to reports, the largest American military base at Ellinikon is expected to be moved to another location in Greece. This was announced in a reply by Communications Minister Papadhongonas to a question tabled by Panhellenic Socialist Movement members Botsaris and Kaklamani on the construction of an airport at Sparta. The minister stressed that it cannot be ruled out that the American base might also be moved to Sparta.

Meanwhile broad circles of Greek public opinion support the full withdrawal of all foreign military bases from Greek soil. They believe that the existence of a large number of American-NATO military units in the country seriously violates the sovereignty of the Greek state and harms its security.

FRENCH COMMITTEE STRESSES PERIL OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

LD141239 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Paris, April 14, TASS--The Committee for the Unity and Independence of France, in connection with the planned elections to the European Parliament, issued an address in which it points to the peril of West European integration to the country. The address, signed by the committee's chairman, former Prime Minister Michel Debre, notes the necessity of pursuance of a policy which would ensure France's independence.

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WESTERN EUROPE

USSR-ICELANDIC FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENT

LD137336 Moscow TASS in English 2322 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--A plan of cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the USSR-Iceland Society and the Iceland-Soviet Union Society for 1979 was signed here today.

According to Nikolay Kudryavtsev, chairman of the USSR-Iceland Society's board, cooperation plans between the organizations have been signed annual since 1975. They became an important factor in the development of Soviet-Icelandic cultural and public relations. The forms of contacts are improving annually. The role of the friendship societies in the general system of Soviet-Icelandic relations is constantly increasing. The 1979 plan, said Kudryavtsev, demands from our organizations the continuation of the activities for the mutual acquaintance with the life of our peoples and the promotion of mutual understanding. It provides for delegation exchanges, different meetings, lectures, exhibitions and other functions. The days of the Soviet Union in Iceland with the broad participation of Kazakhstan will become the main function of the year. The plan envisages the celebration of a number of anniversaries, such as the 800th birthday of one of the authors of the Icelandic sagas, Snorri Sturluson.

The friendship societies, said Kudryavtsev, are currently operating in the conditions of a favourable development of Soviet-Icelandic relations, at a time when international detente is becoming a reality. Of primary importance is at present the struggle against the arms race and the plans of the production and deployment of the neutron bomb. The USSR-Iceland Society has always considered its activity as an integral part of the movement for peace and friendship between nations. Now that we are celebrated the 20th anniversary of our association, we are with renewed energy working for the implementation of the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, said Kudryavtsev.

The 20th anniversary of the USSR-Iceland Society was marked by a meeting at the Moscow House of Friendship, which was attended by a delegation of the Iceland-Soviet Union Society headed by its leader, I. Johnsson.

BRIEFS

BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN KIEV--Herbert Ben Curtis Keeble, British ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, and his wife stayed in Kiev from 4 to 6 April. He paid a visit to Gusev, Kievskiy Gorispol'skom chairman; was received in the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; called at the Paton Electrowelding Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences; visited the main enterprise of the Kiev electronic computer production association; visited the Pushoha Voditsa Sovkhoz, and saw Kiev historical and architectural monuments. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 7 Apr 79 AU]

KIEV-PARIS PASSENGER FLIGHTS--The first regular passenger flight on the Kiev-Paris-Kiev route left from Borispol airport on 7 April. The flight inaugurated a new, the 10th, international air route flown by Ukrainian aviators. Soviet-French air transport links are developing in accordance with the intergovernmental agreement on scientific-technical cooperation in the field of civil aviation and the electronics industry. The weekly flights will be undertaken jointly by Aeroflot and Air France. TU-154 planes will be used to transport large groups of tourists from both countries. In 1977 Ukrainian airports serviced more than 1.2 million foreign tourists. In the last 3 years their number has more than doubled. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 7 Apr 79 AU]

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U S S R I N T E R N A T I O N A L A F F A I R S
M I D D L E E A S T & N O R T H A F R I C A

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MOSCOW COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT'S MOVE TO HOLD REFERENDUM

LD131954 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "What Prompted President as-Sadat To Hold a Referendum?"]

[Excerpts] President as-Sadat is engaged in a publicity tour of a number of provinces in upper Egypt. During his stops the Egyptian president will meet and address officials and representatives of the people.

President as-Sadat appealed to every Egyptian to participate in the referendum and support his program known as "no return to the past" and consequently to support the capitulationist policy which resulted in the signing of the separate treaty with the aggressor and the policy which seeks to reequip the Egyptian Army with U.S. weapons. Such a reequipment will inevitably lead to an increase in military expenditure and will consequently increase Egypt's debts to the United States that are reaching astronomical figures.

President as-Sadat asks the Egyptians to say yes to dissolution of the People's Assembly and the formation of the new government and the institutions subordinate to it. This could become a way to consolidate absolute power, which the Egyptian president actually possesses. Foreign journalists draw attention to the fact that about 2 months will pass between the dissolution of the People's Assembly and the election of a new body in June. This means that the country will be without a legislature during this period. AFP has said that this period is sufficient for completing without much fuss the legal process of the collusion with Israel and the United States and the practical implementation of all the anti-Arab provisions and chapters contained in the capitulationist treaty.

Egypt's experience in the last few years has absolutely shown that what the Egyptian president calls normal life dominated by peace will benefit only those who hold power and those who possess capital which was dishonestly acquired and those who have access to direct benefits resulting from the rapprochement with U.S. imperialism and Zionist Israel.

But such people only form a minority in Egypt. There is no doubt about this at all. This means that this idea, the idea of holding the referendum, is not capable of misleading public opinion in the Arab world and progressive-minded persons throughout the world. A number of Arab and international papers are saying this today. One significant point here is that the U.S. and Western press has been expressing its opinion quite openly and insolently. The Egyptian president is trying to steer his policy toward cooperating fully with the United States and Western Europe.

Purpose To Eliminate Opposition

LD151102 Moscow TASS in English 0727 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

["Preparing To Suppress Opposition"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beirut, April 15, TASS--According to reports from Cairo, the Egyptian regime has started propaganda preparations for a fresh political farce--the so-called "referendum"--scheduled to be held on April 19. It is designed by As-Sadat to "ensure" national support in Egypt for the separate treaty with Israel.

It is pointed out in the local political circles, however, that the point is not only Cairo's wish to finally rubberstamp the treacherous anti-Arab deal, which for that matter has already been "approved" by the People's Assembly obedient to As-Sadat.

As-Sadat intends to use this performance whose results have been predetermined in advance in order to be able to launch a new broad offensive against Egypt's progressive forces, to eliminate finally any manifestation of opposition to the political line of the ruling circles. As-Sadat intends to restructure the whole of the country's state and political system so as to adapt it in the best possible way to the new role, which Egypt is called upon to play in the region under the plans of U.S. imperialism. This aim cannot be glossed over by the demagogic slogans of official Egyptian propaganda on a "perfection of democracy".

What kind of democracy is it, if preparations for the "referendum" are accompanied with unprecedented suppression of all criticism, fierce attacks against the left-wing forces, intimidation and blackmail of the electorate? The authorities are openly threatening to use "sanctions" against those Egyptians, who refuse to support the government policy of departure from the progressive gains of the epoch of President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, the policy of disgraceful alliance with the forces of world imperialism and international Zionism.

The first practical step, which As-Sadat is going to take after the referendum, will be the dissolution of the People's Assembly. This measure, in the opinion of observers is evidence of regime's exasperation against the independent position of a group of deputies that is small in number but has broad support among the people. The group of deputies is known to have strongly condemned in the course of the recent debate the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty. And now As-Sadat hopes through dissolution of the People's Assembly and the holding the new parliamentary elections to get rid of "troublesome" deputies and form a legislative body solely from supporters of his policy.

A new state body, the so-called "consultative council" is to be set up to "endorse" the regime's actions.

As-Sadat has announced that after the referendum, "freedom" of forming political parties will be introduced in Egypt. This "freedom" will apply, however, only to the political groupings and trends, which are ready to follow into the footsteps of the present leadership's policy. As far as representatives of many truly opposition forces are concerned they, as is noted here, will be denied the right to engage themselves in political activity legally.

Analysing the questions to be brought for the "referendum" on April 19 the observers are unanimous that the aim of this farce planned by As-Sadat is to suppress the growing discontent in that country with the policy of the government, to camouflage the regime's (?undemocratic) essence and pave the ground for new repressions against the progressive forces. Thus, As-Sadat hopes to divert public attention from the baneful consequences of the separate deal with Tel Aviv, to neutralise the sobering effect on the minds of the Egyptians of the common stand of the Arab countries, which have rejected this treacherous deal.

MOSCOW IN ARABIC: HELMS IN EGYPT TO REORGANIZE INTELLIGENCE

Referendum a 'Farce'

LD132030 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Aleksy Zlatorunskiy commentary: "Cairo Before the Referendum"]

[Excerpts] Large-scale preparations are underway in Cairo for a farce which President as-Sadat has publicly called a referendum. All political and propaganda means are being used to make the results appear as if the Egyptians support the disgraceful separate deal with Israel. But despite this, it appears that the situation in Egypt is increasingly disturbing those officials in As-Sadat's administration or their protectors.

The truth about this assumption is shown in the following facts: Foreign agents in Egypt and in neighboring Arab states say that a wave of arrests has taken place in the country, including in army ranks. Those who raised their voice in protest against the capitulatory deal with Zionists have been imprisoned.

But it appears that Washington considers all these measures insufficient to support As-Sadat's regime and get rid of the opposition to his capitulatory policy. It is common knowledge that Richard Helms has arrived in Cairo on a secret visit.

According to reports from Arab countries, Richard Helms arrived in Cairo to reorganize Egyptian intelligence, to help the Egyptian regime liquidate opposition elements and to engineer and implement plots against Arab countries condemning the separate deal. It goes without saying that Washington considered Helms as the best candidate to avoid a repetition of the Iranian events in Egypt. But no matter how hard President As-Sadat tries to eliminate the enemies of his capitulatory policy or deny them the right to vote, their number is continuously increasing.

TASS ON OPTIMISM IN EGYPT OVER U.S. FINANCIAL AID

LD141352 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0833 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["Aid: Unfounded Optimism"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo--Egyptian ruling circles are striving to obtain from Washington the promised increases in American financial and economic aid in payment for concluding the anti-Arab separate agreement with Israel. AL AKHBAR writes that a high-ranking American delegation, including a number of congressmen and heads of U.S. industrial companies, is due in Cairo shortly. The aim of the visit is to "review ways of fulfilling U.S. pledges to assist the expansion of American investment in the Egyptian economy." Local newspapers note that this year the United States is granting \$1 billion in financial aid to Egypt. Egyptian officials and the press are doing everything to exalt the importance of the monetary "injections" by the West into the country's economy and are painting in the most iridescent shades the assistance which those countries are due to render for the development of the economy.

But everyone in the Egyptian capital by no means shares this opinion. Egypt's poorly-developed agrarian-industrial base substantially limits the possibilities for effective and timely assimilation of many credits. Evidence of this is the fact that delays in taking them up are constantly giving rise to criticism on the part of the "donor" countries themselves. Therefore, despite the impressive figures, this aid will not lead to marked economic advances in the coming years.

Observers believe that the accentuated optimism of Egyptian ruling circles on this question can be explained primarily by political considerations. The real reason for this, they point out, is a desire on the part of the Egyptian leadership to show the masses at least some "visible fruits" of the Egyptian-Israeli separate deal when the overwhelming majority of Arab countries have rejected it and have decided to cut off economic aid to Egypt.

KUWAIT DISCONTINUES FINANCIAL AID TO EGYPT

LD141725 Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 14, TASS--As the JANA news agency reports from Kuwait, the government of that country decided to renounce the services of 60 Egyptian military specialists who worked in the Kuwaiti Army. This step is taken in accordance with the resolutions of the Baghdad conference of foreign and economics ministers on boycotting the Egyptian regime.

The news agency points out that Kuwait also discontinued the granting of financial means to Cairo for Egypt's payment for purchases of weapons abroad.

The reports says that it became known to the Kuwaiti Government that the first installment within the framework of that programme was remitted by As-Sadat to his personal account at the British "Barclays" Bank.

At the session of the all-Arab air transportation union in the Libyan capital, it was decided to suspend Egypt's membership of that organisation.

ISRAELI VIOLENCE IN LEBANON FOLLOWS ACCORD WITH EGYPT

LD131728 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Viktor Glazunov commentary]

[Text] Now a commentary in which our observer, Viktor Glazunov, takes a look at the situation in the Middle East. Here is what he writes:

Bombs and shells are again exploding in that region. In the past few days Israel has bombed Lebanese territory. It is amassing troops and equipment along the frontier with Lebanon. Observers feel Israel may launch yet another large-scale military operation.

No sooner had the ink dried on the supposedly peace treaty between Israel and Egypt than Tel Aviv again resorted to violence. It is a strange peace treaty, indeed. True, there have been peace treaties in the past that led to war but none has been accompanied by a drive to build up military efforts. The treaty between Israel and Egypt includes as a component part large shipments of United States' arms to both countries. The American newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR asks: If they are building peace, why do they need growing shipments of arms? But the Israeli-Egyptian treaty has nothing in common with a genuine peace settlement in the Middle East.

Egypt used to lead the effort in the Arab resistance front against Israeli expansion: Now it has agreed that Israel occupies Arab lands indefinitely. It has agreed to the Israeli plan for Palestinian autonomy under occupation. In this way it has betrayed the right of Palestinian Arabs to self-determination including their right to a state of their own.

Israeli leaders have got what they wanted. They now speak of a major victory of Israeli foreign policy. The Arabs on the other hand speak of their interests betrayed by Cairo.

The situation in the Middle East has aggravated: The Israeli bombardments of Lebanese territory are a symptom, an ominous sign of what dangers the peace treaty Camp David style has in store. The Israeli foreign minister, Moshe Dayan, has said the treaty with Egypt is more than a treaty: It is a kind of an alliance in the Middle East between the United States, Israel and Egypt.

Indeed, it is a military alliance, an alliance to dictate in the Middle East and also to uphold America's military-strategic and economic interests. The United States is encouraging the role of a policeman for both Israel and Egypt and that is why it gives both of them arms.

American leaders themselves rather frankly admit there is a possibility of American direct military interference. So the Israeli-Egyptian treaty that was signed under the United States auspices is aimed to form a military and political alliance.

USSR SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE CONDEMNS EGYPT-ISRAEL TREATY

LD140140 Moscow TASS in English 0025 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--Follows the text of a statement issued by the Soviet-Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee:

"These are days when the peoples of the Arab countries and broad circles of international public opinion are expressing indignation and deep concern over the signing of the separate treaty between Egypt and Israel under the aegis of the USA, a treaty justly regarded as a dangerous neocolonialist conspiracy aimed at expanding imperialist influence in the Middle East, as a threat to the gains of the Arab national-liberation movement, to the vital interests of all Arab states.

"Concluded in obviation of and contrary to existing UN resolutions, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, as is clear from its content, has nothing in common with a settlement of the key issues of the protracted Middle East crisis, or with the interests of establishing a lasting and just peace in that explosive area. On the contrary, having sealed the alliance between the reactionary ruling circles of Egypt and Israel, this treaty leads to a further escalation of tension in the Middle East.

"Blasphemously named a 'peace treaty', the Egypt an-Israeli separate deal asserts the fruits of Tel Aviv's expansionist policy, puts up obstacles in the path of the realization of the inalienable national rights of the Palestine Arab people, above all, its right to self-determination and the creation of an independent state of its own in accordance with existing UN resolutions.

"As the public in Arab countries notes, the implementation of this imperialist conspiracy became possible as a result of the capitulatory, anti-Arab position of the present Egyptian leadership headed by A. as-Sadat. Having achieved the acceptance of the separate treaty by Egypt, the United States of America is drawing that Arab country into the orbit of its dangerous strategic designs spearheaded against the national-liberation movements of African and Asian peoples, seeking compensation in this manner for the loss of its partner, in the person of the shah's regime, overthrown by the Iranian people, trying to turn Egypt, along with Israel, into a watchman of imperialist interests in that part of the world.

"The events taking place in the Middle East following the conclusion of the separate Egyptian-Israeli deal under U.S. patronage, in particular, the savage blows by Israeli military against Lebanon, against the Palestine refugee camps, the stepping up of punitive actions on the occupied Arab territories, Cairo's threats addressed against Arab states--are all new testimony of how the so-called 'peace treaty' signed in Washington, actually constitutes a serious threat to peace and security of the peoples.

"Coming out consistently and persistently for a comprehensive settlement and a lasting peace in the Middle East, Soviet people fully share the profound indignation of the Arab peoples over the separate Egyptian-Israeli collusion, and firmly condemn the dangerous manoeuvres of American imperialism in that region.

"The decisions of the Baghdad conference of foreign and economics ministers of Arab states, which rejected the Egyptian-Israeli treaty and endorsed collective political and economic sanctions against the Egyptian regime, are an effective reply to the separate deal concluded behind the backs of the Arab peoples.

"Soviet people fully support the principled, consistent position of the CPSU CC and the Soviet Government, working for a genuine comprehensive settlement in the Middle East, and giving firm support to the Arabs' just cause.

"Soviet public opinion is convinced that the Arab peoples will counterpose the Egyptian-Israeli deal with their strengthening unity, will continue the joint struggle in defence of their vital interests and national rights, against the encroachments of imperialism and its local minions, will strive, with the support of all peace-loving, democratic forces, for a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East".

EGYPTIAN LEFT PARTY LEADER ADDRESSES ANNIVERSARY MEETING

LD131642 Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, April 13, TASS--A public meeting, devoted to the third anniversary of the foundation of the National Progressive (Left) Party of Egypt has been held at its headquarters here.

Speaking at the meeting, chairman of the National Progressive (Left) Party of Egypt, prominent politician and public leader deputy of the People's Assembly Halid Muhyi ad-Din has said that the Left Party, which has in its ranks all patriotic and democratic forces of the country, has been waging since its formation selfless struggle for the preservation of the gains of the July revolution of 1952, for the deepening of socio-economic progressive transformations, for a democratic and free Egypt.

The National Progressive Party put forward a concrete program of solution of problems facing the country. The program envisages consolidation of unity and cohesion of all democratic and progressive forces in the country, the full use of the possibilities which are at the disposal of the Arab nation, consolidation of the alliance with all peace-loving forces, primarily with the socialist countries.

From the very beginning of Egyptian president's so-called "peace initiative", said Halid Muhyi ad-Din, we declared that it could only lead to conclusion of an Egyptian-Israeli separate deal, but not to comprehensive peace. Our party continues to hold now a clear-cut and principled stand with relation to the separate treaty which was concluded with active participation of the United States. We consider the treaty as a large step back in the Arab peoples' struggle for liberation of the occupied lands and for ensuring the legitimate national rights of the Arab Palestinian people, for a genuine, all-embracing and fair peace in the Middle East. But the separate treaty does not lead to peace, it has the aim to further imperialist-Zionist plans in that area of the globe, the plans aimed at formation of a new military bloc and suppression of the Arab peoples' struggle for economic and social progress.

The National Progressive Party, said Halid Muhyi ad-Din sustained great sacrifices. The authorities arrested many members of the National Progressive Party, raided its headquarters three times and confiscated its documents and printing equipment, instituted proceedings against the party, did everything in order to silence its activists.

Much has been spoken in the recent years in Egypt about the development of democracy, but in reality the authorities are doing everything to stifle democratic liberties, said the party chairman. When the head of state says "liberties", it is becoming clear to all that he means fetters, and we have got used to it.

In conclusion, Halid Muhyi ad-Din said that at one with all progressive and democratic forces in Egypt, in the Arab world and the whole planet the National Progressive Party is fully determined to continue the just struggle for genuine freedom, democracy and peace in the Middle East.

SCANDALS LEAD TO CRISIS IN U.S.-SOUTH AFRICAN RELATIONS

LD141811 Moscow TASS in English 1753 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

["Love's Not Complete Without a Quarrel"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--TASS commentator S. Fedorov writes:

American newspapers report in sensational tones a "dramatic deterioration" of relations between the United States and the Republic of South Africa. The South Africans have already sent out of Pretoria three American attaches. In response, two diplomats of the racist republic were asked to go from Washington. Describing this quarrel, the American press obviously wants to gain political capital for the White House, to present things in a way that allegedly "Pretoria's wrath" was caused by the "principled stand" of official Washington, by its allegedly "strong criticism" against the apartheid policy, the U.S. demands that the Namibian problem be resolved.

What are the things if stripped of propaganda husks? All was triggered off by a scandal which began yet last year in South Africa around the so-called Special Department of the Ministry of Information of the Republic of South Africa. It was found out, specifically, that that department had a "special fund" and its spending was controlled neither by the Parliament nor by the government. The money was used for bribes, donations to election funds of congressmen, capital [as received]--Pretoria travels, valuable gifts to those who in circumvention of international sanctions and American legislation helped the Republic of South Africa to receive strategic commodities, the inspiration in the American press of items in favour of the Republic of South Africa, etc.

Vorster had to leave the post of prime minister and take the nominal post of the president of the Republic of South Africa. The career of Information Minister Connie Mulder was ruined and there was a whole number of resignations followed in governmental institutions in the Republic of South Africa--all that came in the wake of the scandalous disclosure of activities of the special department. But nobody either in the White House or in the Capitol were going, however, to overthrow the racist system.

What was intended is to exert only a diplomatic pressure upon the Republic of South Africa so that Pretoria should remedy slightly the facade of the apartheid regime which shocks even Western countries, that the Government of the Republic of South Africa should take a "more flexible" stand in solving the question of Namibia's future. That was being done with the only aim: to keep the Republic of South Africa in the Western orbit, to let out part of the steam before an explosion which threatens Western countries' tremendous economic and strategic interests in the South African subcontinent. But Pretoria, which has got spoiled by traditional connivance on the part of Western countries, decided itself to "teach" Washington "a lesson". Having caught American attaches in using the U.S. ambassador's personal plane for air espionage, the authorities of the Republic of South Africa had a kind of a come-back for the scandalous disclosures which found their way into some newspapers of the United States.

And, now, the French newspaper LE MATIN writes, "the Republic of South Africa is going to launch a political and diplomatic offensive". The first sign of that are hints that appeared in Johannesburg newspaper to the effect that now that the relations with the Americans are so strained the Republic of South Africa cannot agree to Washington's mediation in solution of the question of Namibia's future.

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Generally speaking, the current squabble only benefits the parties to it. It gives a possibility to the United States to pose as "an accuser" of the morals of the racists, and the Republic of South Africa--to try to postpone its withdrawal from Namibia. And there are signs that the American side is already going to make a step back. It implies that it does not intend to complicate any longer the relations with its South African partner.

Is it really a wonder? The scandal around the special department laid bare a whole system of cooperation between Pretoria and Washington on a governmental level, provides an extra proof that there are extensive common interests of the U.S. imperialists and the racists of the Republic of South Africa.

RHODESIAN PLANES BOMB LUSAKA, CONTINUE RAIDS

LD131934 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Today, at dawn, Rhodesian commandos attacked Zambia's capital, Lusaka, mainly its eastern suburbs, where the missions of the national liberation movements of the south of Africa are situated. This week has seen four raids on Zimbabwe refugee camps and settlements in various parts of Zambia, by the Rhodesian planes. Smith's planes and troops commit acts of aggression against the other frontline states as well, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana. South African racists act in full concord with them. (Yuriy Boksini) comments:

These raids are carried out to make Zambia, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana renounce their support for the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. At the same time, the racists intend to destabilize the frontline states' economy and undermine their social and economic reforms. The UN General Assembly and Security Council has many a time condemned the acts of aggression committed by the racist regimes and demanded a stop to them. The same stand is taken by the Organization of African Unity and the nonaligned movement.

Pretoria and Salisbury, however, ignore the opinion of the international community and for a very good reason. They have got powerful patrons, the United States, Britain and other Western countries, even if these patrons from time to time vote for resolutions condemning their charges and forward various plans for settling the problems in the south of Africa that recommend Rhodesian and South African rulers to make some concessions to the national liberation movement.

But all this is a camouflage. The point is that the racist regimes and the West are united by common interests. That's why the Western countries give Pretoria and Salisbury political, economic and military aid, in defiance of the UN resolution. They supplied South Africa with more than \$3,000 million worth of weaponry alone and two-thirds of it came from the United States. Israel also gives South Africa and Rhodesia economic and military aid and Beijing expands its trade and economic links with them. By reinforcing the racist regimes, the Western powers, Israel and China become accomplices to their crimes, crimes committed against the frontline states and against the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.

REPORTAGE ON LUSAKA CONFERENCE OF FRONTLINE STATES

Condemnation of West's Role

LD131704 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--TASS political commentator Sergey Kulik writes:

The racist regime of Rhodesia has made a challenge to the international public opinion unprecedented for its insolence--it made another barbarous raid on Zambia's territory, bombarded suburbs of Lusaka exactly at a time when an international conference in support of the national-liberation movements in the south of Africa and solidarity with the "frontline" states was underway in Zambia's capital.

One cannot overlook the fact that the embittering of the aggressive policy of Salisbury and its senior partners from Pretoria coincides in time with Western countries' stepped-up attempts to resolve a whole package of South African problems neocolonialist way. The point in question is the attempt to impose puppet regimes upon the African majority in Rhodesia and Namibia. It is by no means accidental that Rhodesia's bandit-like action against Zambia directly precedes the final round of preparations for "elections" in Rhodesia, which are opposed both by the Zimbabwe patriots and the "frontline" states.

Facts show that aggressive actions of Rhodesians against Zambia, just as the recent provocations committed by the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia against Angola, Mozambique and Botswana have the aim to demoralize and weaken the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and SWAPO, to intensify pressure upon the "frontline" states in order to force them to give up support of the patriots of Namibia and Zimbabwe. In a bid to further these aims, the racist military practically act as agendarme in the service of international capital.

It is exactly the interest of the imperialist states in realisation of neo-colonialist plans in South Africa that makes them act as supporters of the racists. As was noted at the Lusaka conference, support from the United States, Britain and other NATO countries unties the hands of the Salisbury and Pretoria regimes in order to commit criminal provocations against independent African states. The ever growing proportions of arms deliveries to South Africa by NATO powers should be regarded as downright connivance at the racists. Exactly that equipment is used by the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia for armed actions against the "frontline" states, for conducting a policy of genocide against the African population of Zimbabwe and Namibia. Therefore, Western countries, at one with the Pretoria and Salisbury regimes, bear responsibility for the crimes that have been committed or are being committed by the racists.

Therefore, in a resolution approved by the Lusaka conference, strongly denounced were not only direct initiators of the barbarous raid on Lusaka but also those imperialist Western circles which actively collaborate with the racists. The conferees called upon the U.N. Security Council to denounce the racists' aggressive actions and to take immediate concrete measures against the Smith regime.

Resolution Supports Liberation Movements

LD131644 Moscow TASS in English 1204 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, April 13, TASS--Existence of racist regimes in the south of Africa constitutes a threat to the sovereignty of the "frontline" states and the African Continent as a whole. This is pointed out in the programme of actions, the main resolution submitted for the discussion of the international conference in support of the national liberation movements of [the] south [of] Africa and solidarity with the "frontline" states now under way in Lusaka. The document brings out the sinister role played by the Western powers in the perpetuation and consolidation of racist systems in Zimbabwe, Namibia, and the Republic of South Africa, and also the West's assistance in building up the military potential of the Pretoria racist regime, which constitutes a grave threat to universal peace and international security.

Delegates from sixty countries of the world condemned the recruiting and use of foreign mercenaries by racist brass-hats. They demanded an end to the West's criminal military-economic cooperation with the racists, release of all political prisoners in the Republic of South Africa and expulsion of apartheid states from the United Nations and other international organizations. The document calls for a further expansion of the world campaign for the complete liquidation of the racist regimes and rendering of all-round assistance to the liberation movements of the south of the African Continent.

In the draft resolution on Namibia the conference participants declared their support to the only lawful representative of the Namibian people, the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO). They protested against the imperialist's manoeuvres to impose a puppet regime on the people of Namibia.

The draft resolution on Zimbabwe calls for all-out assistance to the people of that country and to the genuine champion of their interests, the Patriotic Front. The conference participants condemned strongly the aggressive acts perpetuated by the Rhodesian militarists against Angola, Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia, which are rendering assistance to the Zimbabwe freedom fighters.

The apartheid regime, it is pointed out in the resolution on the Republic of South Africa, has now turned into a bulwark of reaction in the south of Africa. Having gone on record in support of the struggle led by the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, the conference delegates protested against the military-economic cooperation of NATO powers with Pretoria. The document says that the main reason why the West backs the apartheid system, are the natural wealth of the Republic of South Africa and cheap slave labor of the African majority of that country, which the imperialist states and the transitional corporations are eager to profit by. The conference participants called for the expansion of the international campaign for Pretoria's complete isolation and for concrete measures to bridle the racists.

Conference Ends

LD140150 Moscow TASS in English 0000 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Lusaka, April 13, TASS--TASS correspondents Vladimir Novikov and Aleksandr Osipov write:

An international conference in support of liberation movements in the south of Africa and of solidarity with the frontline states ended today in the capital of Zambia. More than 300 delegates from 60 countries of the world, leaders of liberation movements, representatives of national, political and public organisations, of international bodies discussed in detail the situation in the south of Africa and the Middle East. The participants in the conference resolutely condemned the intrigues by imperialist states against the fighters for the freedom of the oppressed peoples in the southern part of the African Continent. The delegates exposed Beijing's subversive activities in Africa, the merging of the great-power course of conquest of the Beijing rulers with the policy of imperialist expansion of NATO countries.

The conference adopted a declaration containing a deep analysis of the course of liberation struggle. The document notes the sinister role played in Africa by Western powers and the multinational corporations that are in fact accomplices of the crimes of the white minority regimes. The delegates spoke highly of the disinterested aid given to the liberation movements by countries of the socialist community, by all progressive forces in the world coming out for the full liquidation of colonialism and racism in Africa.

The delegates also approved an action programme, a resolution on the legality of all forms of struggle for the liberation of the peoples in the south of Africa, on the need of intensifying all-round support for the frontline states, on the shameful role of multinational corporations in Africa, on the military cooperation of imperialist powers with the regime of apartheid. Speaking at the concluding meeting of the conference, the General Secretary of the ruling United National Independence Party of Zambia (UNIP) Mainza Chona stressed the great importance of this meeting for all progressive and democratic forces in the world.

The meeting in Lusaka, he said, serves as a serious reminder to the racists and their imperialist patrons about the might of the international movements of solidarity. There is no doubt that it will serve as an important moral incentive for further developing the victorious liberation struggle in the south of the continent.

AGAPOV APPOINTED NEW AMBASSADOR TO BENIN

LD101429 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 8 April on page 6 publishes a 100-word unattributed report announcing that the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium "has appointed Vitaliy Ivanovich Agapov as the Soviet ambassador to Benin" and has released Ivan Stepanovich Ilin from this post "in connection with his retirement."

ZAMBIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS, HOLDS TALKS

LD101023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Apr 79 p 4 LD

[Text] Syanga Xavier (Kuiksett) Shimabale, Zambian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials to P.Ya. Strautmanis, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the Kremlin 6 April.

The ambassador was accompanied by diplomatic employees of the embassy. After the presentation of credentials and exchange of speeches between P.Ya. Strautmanis and S.X. Shimabale, a friendly talk took place with the participation of M.P. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Ya.A. Malik, USSR deputy foreign minister.

SOVIET-GAMBIAN COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED IN BANJUL

LD132204 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Banjul, April 13, TASS--A protocol has been signed in the Gambian capital on cultural and scientific cooperation between Gambia and the Soviet Union in 1979-1980. The protocol provides for a further development of cooperation of the two countries in the field of culture, information, arts, education and sports. Thus, in particular, it has been planned to exchange curricula and teaching aids, to commission Russian language teachers to Banjul's educational establishments, to arrange for mutual visits of men of letters, trade union figures, artists and athletes. The USSR will continue assistance to Gambia in the training of national personnel through providing grants for training at Soviet educational establishments.

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SUPREME SOVIET SESSION TO BEGIN 18 APRIL

LD160543 Moscow TASS in English 0515 GMT 16 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 16, TASS--The first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the new convocation will be opened on April 18 in the Kremlin at separate meetings of the two equal chambers--the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities, it is officially reported here.

The elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet were held on March 4.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES MOSCOW MEETING ON UPCOMING SUBBOTNIK

LD122250 Moscow TASS in English 1853 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 12, TASS--Party, local government, trade union and YCL activists of Moscow held a meeting in the Hall of Columns of the Trade Union House here to discuss the forthcoming communist subbotnik (labour given freely to the state on day-off on Saturday) to be held on April 21 in honour of the 109th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

Communist subbotniks have become a tradition with the Soviet people. They were initiated by Moscow's working people 60 years ago. Lenin saw in such subbotniks the beginnings of communism and pointed to the need for carefully studying and improving this form of public initiative. Subbotniks play a great part in the development of the Soviet economy and in cultivating a communist attitude to work.

Speaking at the meeting, representatives of Moscow's factories and organizations reported on their preparations for the communist subbotnik and their work plans for April 21.

The meeting was addressed by Viktor Grishin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the party.

He reported that 680 million roubles worth of goods were produced in Moscow during the subbotniks of the last ten years, 80 million roubles worth of building and erection work accomplished and much done for cleaning the city and improving its look.

RSFSR DEPUTY PREMIER NAMED USSR LAND RECLAMATION MINISTER

LD131418 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--Nikolay Vasilyev, 63, has been appointed minister of land reclamation and water conservancy of the USSR. He replace Yevgeniy Alekseyevskiy, who died in January this year.

Nikolay Vasilyev, an agricultural institute graduate, participated in the past war, held different administrative posts in agriculture, discharged party and governmental functions. Since 1971 he has been first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation.

BRIEFS

OBKOM PLENUM IN TSELINOGRAD--A Tselinogradskiy Obkom plenum discussed recently the tasks to intensify the organizational and political work of party organizations in the oblast to successfully cope with the 1979 plans. Obkom First Secretary Morozov delivered a report. An organizational issue was examined. The plenum relieved (Kamarazin) of the duties of obkom second secretary in connection of his transfer to another job. (Shalbarov) was elected obkom second secretary. [Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1513 GMT 28 Mar 79 AU]

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS 13-15 APRIL

LD160058 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 13 April reports that Altay machine operators are preparing for sowing rapidly. Over 80 percent of harvesting machines have been overhauled and are ready for work. Pledges to overhaul the whole of the combine pool, nearly 25,000 units, by 1 May have been made.

At 0500 GMT radio reports that the sowing of spring crops on an area of 70,000 hectares is the volume of work planned for completion by 21 April by Kuban farmers.

At 0600 GMT the radio reports that in the RSFSR spring crops occupy 2.4 million hectares and in Ukraine almost 2 million hectares. In Uzbekistan cotton has been sown on 406,000 hectares.

At 0700 GMT the radio reports that leaders of the front-ranking grain-producing brigades in Tselinogradskaya Oblast met on the eve of the sowing season and pledged to sell more than 2 million tons of grain to the state.

At 1200 GMT the radio's correspondent Nikolayev reports that that even elderly Ukrainian bread grain growers cannot remember such a protracted and cold spring as this one. It is raining in the south of the republic and there was snow in places in the last 24 hours. The whims of the weather are forcing the farmworkers to carry out the sowing of both early and late crops at the same time. The experience of the Ipatovskiy Rayon farmworkers and the efficient maneuvering of equipment are helping them out in coping with a tight work schedule. About 13,000 mechanized complexes are now operating in the Ukraine according to the Ipatovskiy method. A total of more than 2 million hectares of early grain crops have been sown in the republic by today.

At 1445 GMT the radio reports that seeds of new varieties of grain crops have been dispatched for zoning to 12 oblasts of Western Siberia and Northern Kazakhstan. The supplier of this output, the Siberian Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture, has headed the "grain" program in Siberia. Taking part in it are over 20 institutes, scientific-research establishments making up the Siberian department of VASKhNIL and the Siberian branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The aim of this program, which is calculated to the year 2000, is the further increase in gross harvests of grain on the immense Siberian fields.

At 0100 GMT on 14 April the radio reports that sowing is being carried out by 12 union republics. In Uzbekistan, Turkmenia, Moldavia, some southern rayons of the RSFSR and the Ukraine, sowing of early spring crops has been completed. According to provisional data a total of over 7 million hectares has been allocated to them.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that a meeting in Saratov today of the party-economic aktiv discussed measures to increase production and enhance the quality of fodders in light of the decision of the July plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. In an interview Viktor Aleksandrovich Yevseyev, head of the fodder production section of the Saratovskaya Oblast Agricultural Directorate, stated that fodder crops occupy over 1.3 million hectares of arable land in Saratovskaya Oblast, and 2 million hectares are assigned to natural pasture and hay. It is a question of making more efficient use of this large area of land and improving the yields of perennial and annual grasses, corn, beets and other fodder crops. In Saratovskaya Oblast 250,000 hectares of the 350,000 hectares of irrigated land are assigned to grasses and fodder crops. In this connection sowing of soybeans is being considerably expanded and will reach 5,000 hectares. Fodder beets will also be grown more on the irrigated land. Sowing of lucerne is being considerably increased and will occupy over 40 percent of the irrigated land.

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At 2050 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of rice has begun in the Karakalpakskaya ASSR. The republic's growers have pledged this year to produce 250,000 tons of rice, 22,000 tons more than last year. The planting of potatoes has begun in Belorussia. The best eating varieties will occupy an area in the republic of about 500,000 hectares.

At 1200 GMT on 15 April the radio reports that Volgograd farms are displaying CPSU slogans addressed to farmworkers. Spring fieldwork is just about to begin in the lower Volga area. This year 3.5 million hectares are to be sown with graincrops, which is over 600,000 hectares more than last year.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast farmers are taking advantage of warm weather. The first 100,000 hectares of spring crops have been sown. Selective sowing of early barley has begun in all rayons in Estonia. Although the amount of spring fieldwork is a third more than last year, it is intended to complete sowing a week sooner than usual.

MOSCOW REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS IN RSFSR, UKRAINE

LD132244 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0405 GMT 12 Apr 79 LD

[Special correspondent Nikolay Solomentsev report]

[Summary] Spring sowing has started early in the RSFSR and the Ukraine this year. Taking advantage of an early thaw in the beginning of March, farmers have sown early grain crops on 450,000 hectares. Warm sunny weather set in during the first days of April, warming the soil quickly.

In the central and southern regions of the area, farmers have begun sowing sugar beet; 4,000 teams have gone out into the fields, carrying out linear sowing which allows machinery to be used when the seedlings are tended while protecting the plants. This is important in insuring that the farmers fulfill their pledge to obtain 350-400 quintals per hectare. Sugar beets have been planted on 218,000 hectares.

Sunflower sowing is now in full swing, having started 3 to 4 days earlier than usual. This year, early-ripening sunflower strains are being more widely sown. These strains will occupy 30 percent of lands planted in sunflowers, which is no mean figure as 335,000 hectares are devoted to this crop. Also this year a new strain of sunflower, Yubileynyy, noted for its resistance to infections, is to be given preference. In the next few days, mass planting of rice will start on 170,000 hectares.

USSR SPRING CROPS SO FAR COVER 7 MILLION HECTARES

LD131756 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] The sowing of spring crops has begun in southern Belorussia and is now underway in 12 union republics. In Uzbekistan, Turkmenia and Moldavia and also in several southern rayons of the RSFSR and the Ukraine, the sowing of early grain crops has ended. According to operational data a total of over 7 million hectares has been sown to spring crops in the country. The mass sowing of corn and cotton has begun in Central Asian republics. The high work rate in the south of the country is promoted by the use of progressive forms of organization of the sowing and also by favorable weather conditions. Rain has considerably increased the amount of moisture in the soil. However, in the European part of the country, especially in the Volga-vyatka, Volga, Central Chernozem Zone and northern Ukraine cold weather is delaying the start of the sowing. This increases the intensity of the forthcoming mass field work.

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As was noted at the Moscow meeting of the all-union operational staff of material-technical provision of the countryside, a large amount of work has to be done in an unusually short time because of the late spring. This prevents the movement of equipment from one area to another just about everywhere. There is a special need for precision in organizing the entire technological flow for sowing.

The staff paid great attention to speeding up the repairs of the most powerful tractors, K-700 and T-150. In this connection the representatives of ministries and departments reported on measures that had been undertaken to speed up deliveries of spare parts. Special attention was paid to Yaroslavl Avtodizel association and Odessa Pochvamash works. The heads of goskomselkhoztekhnika of the RSFSR and Kazakhstan and Ukraine assured the staff that the repair of all tractors was to be completed by 1 May. This will be promoted by the speeding up of supply of wagons and improvement of discipline in cooperative deliveries.

PEOPLE OVERCOME FLOOD PROBLEMS IN KIEVSKAYA OBLAST

LD151315 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 15 Apr 79 LD

[Summary] "As a result of a large-scale flooding, approximately 200 sq km of forest and land are under water in the Kievskaya Oblast." Grigoriy Taranenko reports: In the 96 years in which measurements have been made, Pripya River has never carried so much water. "Nine villages of the Chernobylskiy Rayon in the Pripya Estuary are completely isolated. Fourteen are partially flooded by communication by ferry with them has been retained. Preparations were indeed made here for the flooding: 250 families were evacuated; more than 3,000 cattle were transferred to safe areas and normal maintenance has been arranged for the cattle. Working people of the neighboring Braginskiy Rayon in Belorussia hurried to the aid of the Chernobylskiy inhabitants. People have shown much stamina and organization in the struggle with the elements." (Aleksandr Fedorovich Pronin), deputy chairman of the rayispolkom and chairman of the flood commission, states:

"All trade services have been organized. Work at all enterprises that have been partially submerged is in full swing. People are fulfilling all tasks. Roads were particularly damaged. At present all civil engineering machinery is engaged on the roads, to fully link the villages with the rayon center. When the floodwaters begin to recede, we shall have just as much work, particularly in protecting our fishery stocks. Here we are involving our fishery farms and schoolchildren from the blue patrol who will deliver fish fry and grown fish--they must be put in the river without delay." The protection of water in the cooling basin of the Chernobylskaya AES has become a matter of special concern. The basin's closed cycle has been preserved. The level of the basin's dam reliably protects the ecological environment of the Pripya's flood plain. The station continues to work and to be constructed without a hitch.

"In places where the soil is ready--not far away--land cultivators are engaged in sowing early spring crops and the work is in full swing."

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WEATHER IN MOST EASTERN AREAS FAVORABLE FOR CROPS

LD141144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2115 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Summary] The following is the weather in the east of the country:

In Moldavia, in the south of the Ukraine and in the Northern Caucasus the weather stayed warm during the first 10 days of April and there was abundant rain. This was favorable for the vegetation of winter grain crops and also for the germination of seeds of spring grain crops.

In winter grain crops the leaf tube formation phase has been noted 10-22 days earlier than the average time for many years. They are in good and satisfactory condition. In the other areas of the Ukraine, in the south of the Central-Chernozem Zone and Volgogradskaya Oblast, sprouts of winter grain crops have started growing [pustilis]. In Belorussia and Lithuania where the snow cover disappeared from fields late in March [word indistinct] and sandy soils have thawed to a depth of up to 20-30 cm and have reached a condition of soft plasticity [myagko-plastichnoye sostoyaniye]. The warm and mainly dry weather was favorable for carrying out fieldwork. Because of the presence of a frozen layer and night frost, thawing and drying proceeded slowly on heavy loam soils.

In Estonia, Latvia, Smolenskaya, Pskovskaya and Novgorodskaya oblasts the fields are almost entirely clear of the snow cover 5-10 days earlier than the average time for many years.

North of the line Petrozavodsk, Moscow, Tambov, Uralsk there is still a snow cover on the fields, and the winter crops are in a state of winter dormancy. The thickness of the snow cover is chiefly 10-35 cm and 50-70 cm in the northeast of our country's European territory. In areas with a thick snow cover measures to speed up its disappearance will be highly effective in Western Siberia and in the north of Kazakhstan a winter weather regime remains. The conditions for the wintering of winter crops were good.

In central Asia and the Transcaucasus it was as warm as in summer.

BRIEFS

POOR PRIMORYE WEATHER--South Primorye had a difficult winter this year and is now faced with a difficult spring. The Partizanskaya Valley had an unprecedented amount of snow and the precipitation is continuing, which has caused many additional difficulties in developing mass field work on the suburban farms. But despite all this, collectives of the Partizanskiy, Vostok, Nakhodkinskiy, Pobeda and Novolitevskiy sovkhoses together with their sponsoring organizations have made good preparations for this spring by completing equipment repairs on time, preserving the seed of potatoes, grain crops and other crops and starting work on hotbeds during the best agrotechnical period. They have already conducted mineral fertilization on more than 3,000 hectares and completed harrowing on 700 hectares. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 0935 GMT 12 Apr 79 OW]

KHABAROVSK KRAY FARMING--Sowing of early crops has begun in Khabarovsk Kray. Today farms in Leninskiy Rayon began sowing grain crops and by evening some 300 hectares of land had been sown to grain. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 7 Apr 79 OW]

SOVIET UNION LAUNCHES COSMOS-1093 ON 14 APRIL

LD141001 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0945 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow--The Cosmos-1093 earth satellite was launched in the Soviet Union today to continue research into space.

Initial period of revolution--97.3 minutes; apogee--650 kilometers; perigee 625 kilometer; inclination of orbit 81.3 degrees.

The equipment on board the satellite is functioning normally.

COMMENTARY ON ABORTED SOYUZ-33 MISSION

Soyuz-33 Crew Did Their Best

LD131215 Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--A TASS special correspondent reports from the Baykonur Cosmodrome:

Sunny spring weather came back to the cosmodrome after heavy winds which raged in Baykonur on the day of the blast-off of the Soyuz-33 spaceship. The cosmodrome specialists accorded a warm welcome to Nikolay Rukavishnikov and Georgi Ivanov who came there from the landing place, having prematurely ended their expedition.

"Time is a remarkable thing, said Commander of the ship Nikolay Rukavishnikov, making this morning a promenade together with his Bulgarian friend Georgi Ivanov. We stayed in outer space for just two days, but the impression is that we worked there for a whole month."

Many cosmonauts disclosed such feelings, which by no means can be described as subjective.

Aleksey Leonov, deputy head of the cosmonauts' training centre, who is now at the cosmodrome together with the crew, believes, for instance, that in the most crucial periods of work in orbit the man develops the impression that every revolution (90 minutes), for eventfulness and emotional load, is tantamount to a whole day.

The past day was not at all an easy one for the first Soviet-Bulgarian crew. Both, certainly, experience some bitterness since they failed to meet the friends in the orbital Salyut-6 station and to work together with them. But the crew made their utmost for the implementation of the programme, they acted precisely and smoothly, both in the moment of approach and in the minutes of landing. This is the appraisal of the crew's actions by the directors of the flight.

The doctors examined the cosmonauts and allowed them not only to make a promenade today, but also to get down to business--preparation of an account of their work in outer space.

Why Space Linkup Was Cancelled

LD132116 Moscow World Service in English 1700 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] An international space crew of the Soviet cosmonaut, Nikolay Rukavishnikov and the first Bulgarian spaceman, Georgi Ivanov, has ended its flight. On Thursday the cosmonauts returned to earth safely. Here are some details of this flight in which unexpected difficulties developed.

The Soyuz-33 spacecraft with Rukavishnikov and Ivanov on board was launched as usual from the Baykonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. The weather was bad. Wind was blowing at 40 meters per second, and having developed a thrust of 20 million horse power the rocket left all atmospheric phenomena well behind.

Before take-off, Nikolay Rukavishnikov said that outer space is a world alien to man. It will remain being so. Anything unexpected can happen there. Georgi and I are ready for that.

In the endless and lifeless space outside the earth's atmosphere the Soyuz-33 spaceship easily found the Salyut-6 orbital station, on board which two other Soviet cosmonauts, Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin have been living and working for a month and a half now. They were eagerly waiting for their guests from earth. The two crews were to have worked on the station for 1 week. The distance between the ship and the station was less than just over 3 kilometers when Rukavishnikov found a malfunction in the approach engine.

A Soviet specialist in space techniques, Konstantin Fecktistov, who made a space flight himself years ago, appeared on the Soviet television. Here is what he said:

The flight of the Soyuz-33 spaceship was proceeding normally up to the moment when an automatic approach was to start, said Dr Fecktistov. By that time the crew had already carried out all the preparatory operations. The ship's orbit had been changed five times so that the ship could approach the station. The automatic approach began. From observation by the ship's crew and telemetric information received at ground control, a malfunction was found in the approach engine. It was decided to cancel the ship's docking with the station. The spacemen on board the ship began to prepare for returning to earth. The approach engine is used to slow down the ship during descent but since it had developed a malfunction, it was necessary to use the reserve engine. This engine is installed on the ship exactly for such unforeseen cases. The ship's crew displayed high professional skill, calmness and endurance. The family of spacemen has added a new worthy member, Georgi Ivanov of Bulgaria. He has shown to be a good cosmonaut, a good researcher and engineer.

The reserve retro engine of the spaceship was switched on over the south Atlantic. The descent to earth went on for 530 seconds. A search and recovery group quickly found the landing craft with the spacemen. The craft softlanded 320 kilometers from the city of Dzhezkazgan. It was reported from the landing spot that the cosmonauts feel well.

Crew Awarded Titles, Orders

LD141530 Moscow TASS in English 1430 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 14, TASS--Researcher-Cosmonaut Georgi Ivanov, a citizen of Bulgaria, has been awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union with the presentation of the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star Medal for the orbital flight in the Soyuz-33 space ship and heroism displayed in it.

Flight Commander Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Pilot-Cosmonaut of the USSR Nikolay Rukavishnikov has been awarded the Order of Lenin. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1300 GMT on 14 April reports that the awards were made by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.]

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Bulgaria Awards Cosmonauts

LD142044 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 14 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Sofia, April 14, TASS--The State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has awarded the honorary title of Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to commander of the spaceship Soyuz-33, Twice-Hero of the Soviet Union, Pilot-Cosmonaut of the USSR Nikolay Rukavishnikov.

First cosmonaut of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Engineer-Lieutenant-Colonel Georgi Ivanov has been awarded the honorary title of Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. He was also awarded the title of pilot-cosmonaut of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The awards were awarded to the cosmonauts for their courage and heroism displayed in the course of the orbital flight aboard the spaceship Soyuz-33.

SALYUT-6-SOYUZ-32 CREW BEGIN TECHNOLOGICAL EXPERIEMENTS

LD131325 Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 13 Apr 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 13, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from the Flight Control Centre:

Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin continue their work aboard the orbital scientific-research Salyut-6 Soyuz-32 complex.

The crew today started technological experiments on the splay unit. The cosmonauts put a capsule with the materials to be explored into an electrical furnace, installed in a special lock chamber of the station. The necessary temperature regimes during the processes of smelting and crystallisation of substances are automatically maintained with the help of a programming device. To lessen the influence of dynamic disturbances on the course of the experiment the orbital complex was changed to a drifting regime, with the motors of the orientation system switched off.

In the course of the day the cosmonauts have been servicing the station, controlling the operation of equipment, doing physical exercises.

According to reports of the crew and data of telemetric information, the systems and the scientific equipment of the space Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 complex are functioning normally. The parameters of the micro-climate inside the complex are: the temperature: 32 degrees centigrade; pressure: 770 millimetres of the mercury column.

Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin feel fine.

Explorations in the near-earth orbit are in progress.